

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



NOVEMBER

John W. Maynard

1988 OFFICERS

President
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2908 Highridge Road
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Historian
ROBERT B. WARWICK
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FORMER PRESIDENTS

ROGER E. ROBERTSON
1987
Col. GEORGE A. ECKERT, JR.
1986
GEORGE SUTHERLAND
VAN DORN
1985
LtC JAMES BELLAH, II
1984
DONALD NORMAN MORAN
1981-1983

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT
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CALIFORNIA SOCIETY,
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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THE FRONT COVER

GEORGE MAYNARD'S DEPICTION OF A
REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER

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, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution unless so stated.

MEETING NOTICE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 1988

At 6:30 P.M. on Monday, November, 28th, 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.) Our Applicants, the ladies and guests are most welcome. Please notify our Secretary if you plan on attending.

ELECTION OF THE 1989 OFFICERS

The Nomination Committee Chairman Roger E. Robertson reported that the following Compatriots have received the unanimous nomination of the Committee:

- President:.....ROBERT C. EMREY
 1st V.P.....AUDEL H. HICKS
 2nd V.P.....BRUCE A. JAGGER
 Secretary.....DONALD N. MORAN
 Treasurer....CHARLES M. PITCHFORD
 Registrar.....BERNI K. CAMPBELL
 Chancellor....RICHARD W. MARSTON
 Chaplain.....LtC JAMES BELLAH, II
 Genealogist...STEPHEN W. GREGORY
 Historian...ROBERT B. WARWICK, II

FOR TRUSTEE'S OF THE CHAPTER'S PERMANENT FUND:

- Trustee.....ROBERT C. EMREY
 Trustee.....JAMES A. McKELLEP
 Trustee.....ROGER E. ROBERTSON

The Chapter will be voting for our 1989 Officers at the November 28th meeting.

In accordance with the Chapters bylaws, any member, in good standing, interested in any position many be nominated from the floor at said meeting. The bylaws do not permit either proxy or absentee ballots.

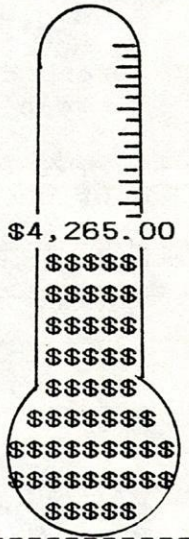
OUR CHAPTER'S PERMANENT FUND

Donations 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
 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
 =====end=====

THE FUND



WELCOME NEW COMPATRIOTS

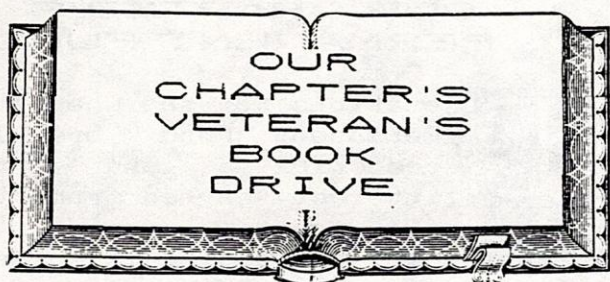
The Chapter has received notification from the National Society, SAR, that 3 of our applicants have been accepted into membership:

MATTHEW PAUL BROWN
 (NSSAR No. 131913, CSSAR No. 5559)
 Descendant of: Pvt. JAMES COFFELL

ROBERT CHARLES EMREY, II
 (NSSAR No. 131912, CSSAR No. 5558)
 Descendant of: Qtm. GEROGE EMREY

ROBERT BRECKENRIDGE WARWICK, III
 (NSSAR No. 131914, CSSAR No. 5560)
 Descendant of: LtC JOHANN WAGNER

===== end =====



Our Veteran's Book Drive Committee, Chaired by Berni K. Campbell reports that they delivered 385 paperback books to the Sepulveda Veteran's Hospital in September.

The collection of books continues and we will making deliveries to both the Brentwood and Sawtelle Hospitals in November.

===== end =====

COMPATRIOT'S IN THE NEWS

Compatriot Berni Campbell who is running for his NINTH term as Registrar of the Chapter has retired after a career of over forty years as a radio and television engineer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

- ROGER E. ROBERTSON.....11-02
- EUGENE DICK.....11-08
- STEPHEN W. GREGORY.....11-23

THERE WERE NO ANNIVERSARIES IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

===== end =====

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

Our Heritage is our past,
 Our duty is the present,
 Our Hope is the Future

OUR COLOR GUARD



Our Inter-Service Continental Color Guard will be one of the lead units in the annual Glendale Christmas Parade held in Montrose on Saturday Evening, December 3rd. The Color Guard, manned by members of the Van Nuys High School Junior R.O.T.C. will add that touch of patriotism and color that makes parades special.

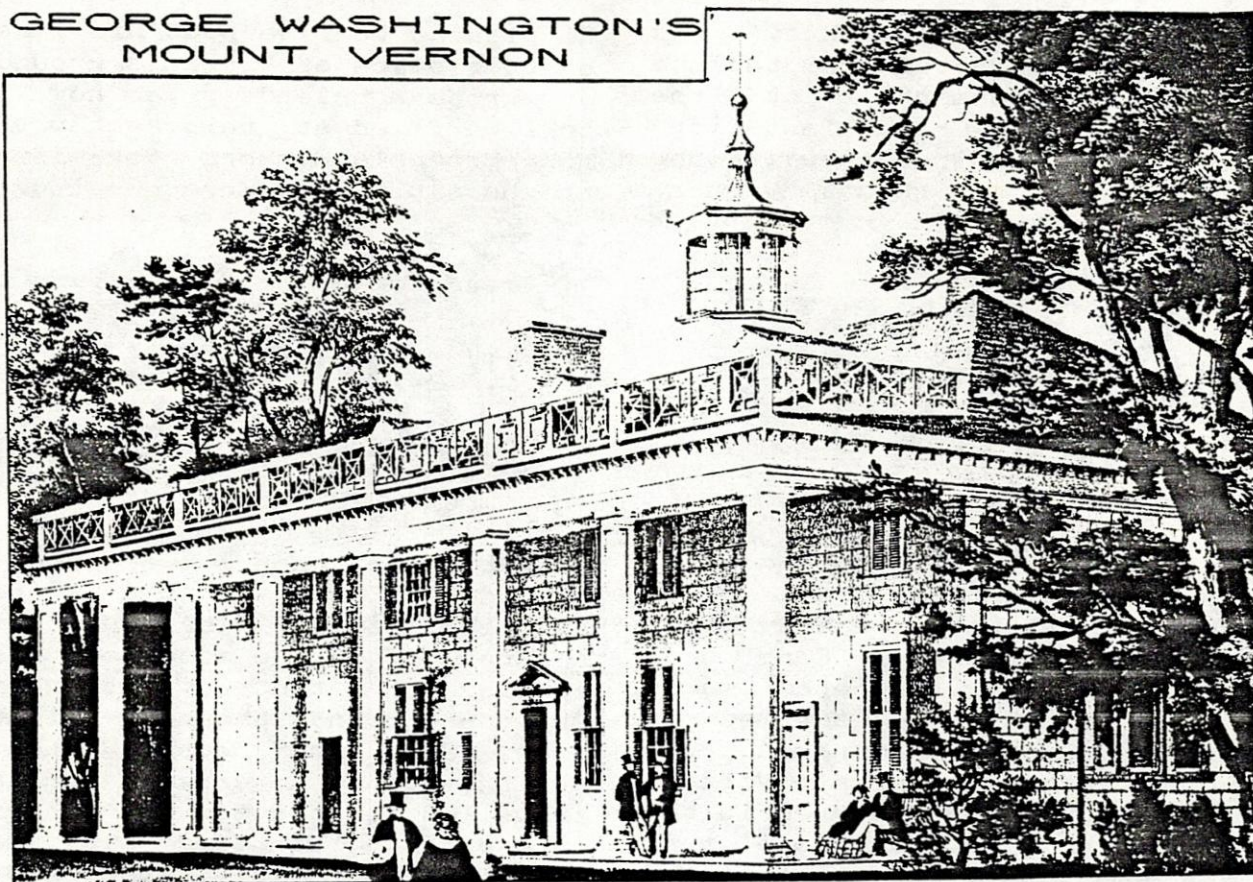
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THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

President "Bill" Semerau is continuing the tradition of holding the annual President's Open House, to be held on Saturday, December 10th at the Semerau Ranch. Invitations and maps be sent under separate cover. This will be a very special "open House" as Bill's ranch has it's own railroad, operating steam engines and all which will be in operation for the Chapter.

===== end =====

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S
MOUNT VERNON

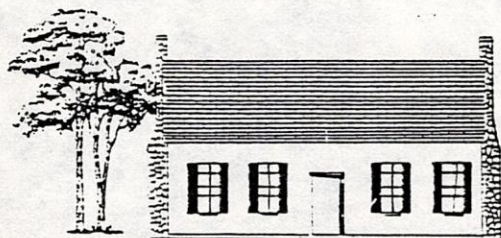


THE EAST FRONT VIEW OF THE MOUNT VERNON MANSION.

In 1793, George Washington wrote "No estate in United America is more pleasantly situated than this. It lies in a high, dry and healthy Country 300 miles by water from the Sea on one of the finest rivers in the world. It is situated in a latitude between the extremes of heat and cold, and is the same distance by land and water, with good roads and the best navigation from the Federal City, Alexandria and Georgetown; distance from the first twelve, from the second nine, and the last sixteen miles." Washington loved his plantation, which is well known, and a single visit to this historic spot will assure your fully understanding why.

George Washington's Great Grandfather, John was one of the earliest settlers in the area known as the "Northern Neck". In 1674 John Washington and Nicholas Spencer were granted 5,000 acres of land along the upper Potomac, between Dogue and Little Hunting Creeks, in what is now Westmoreland County, Virginia by Lord Culpeper. The land was equally divided between Lawrence Washington and the heirs of Nicholas Spencer. After the death of Lawrence, the estate, then known as Little Hunting Creek Plantation, was passed to his daughter Mildred Washington Gregory. In 1735, when George Washington was three years old, his father moved his family from their plantation at

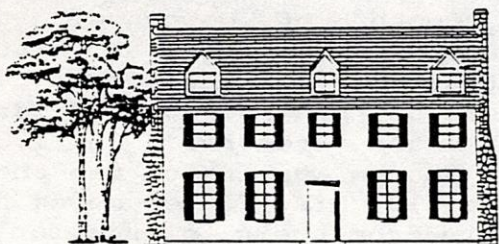
Pope's Creek, now known as George Washington Birthplace National Monument, to the Little Hunting Creek Plantation. Augustine Washington built the first house at Mount Vernon.



MOUNT VERNON IN 1739

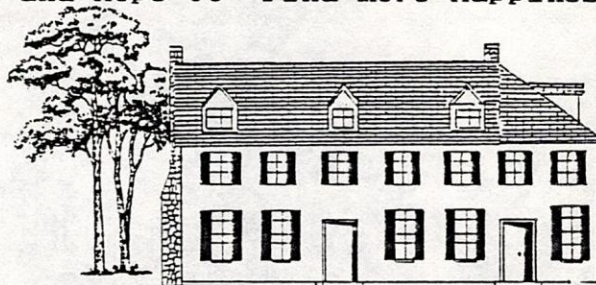
Augustine Washington deeded the Little Hunting Creek estate to his son Lawrence and moved his family to Ferry Farm, near Fredericksburg. Lawrence married in 1743 and settled at Mount Vernon. He named the estate after Admiral Vernon, under whom he had served in the Caribbean. In that same year George's father Augustine passed away and George was taken in by his older half Brother at Mount Vernon. In 1752 Lawrence died and two years later George purchased the estate from Lawrence's widow.

The records from this period are extremely poor, but it is known that George immediately started to improve the property. He married Martha Danridge Custis in 1759 and shortly thereafter added a second story to the original Manor house.



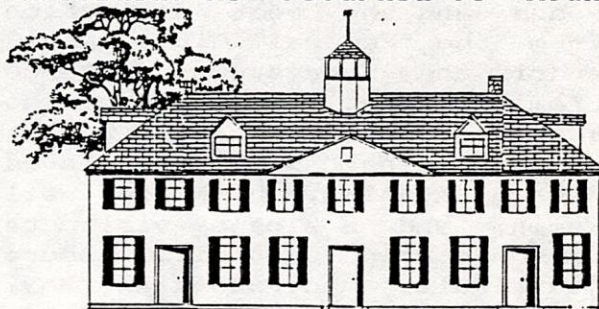
MOUNT VERNON IN 1759

He planned to live out his life on this piece of Virginia ground and wrote a friend: "I am now, I believe fixed at this seat with an agreeable Consort for life and hope to find more happiness



MOUNT VERNON IN 1775

in retirement than I ever experienced amidst a wide and bustling World." His hope was not to be, as he accepted the command of the Revolutionary Army and spent the next eight years away from Mount Vernon. During these years, Martha travelled to the army's winter quarters and "wintered" with her husband. In 1781, Washington spent a few days at his home, than was off to defeat Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the final victory, Washington resigned his Commission and retired to his beloved Mount Vernon, but again, his hopes were dashed when he was summoned to Philadelphia to preside over the Constitutional Convention. This, of course, led to his becoming for first president of the United States. In the eight years he served as President he returned to Mount



MOUNT VERNON IN 1797

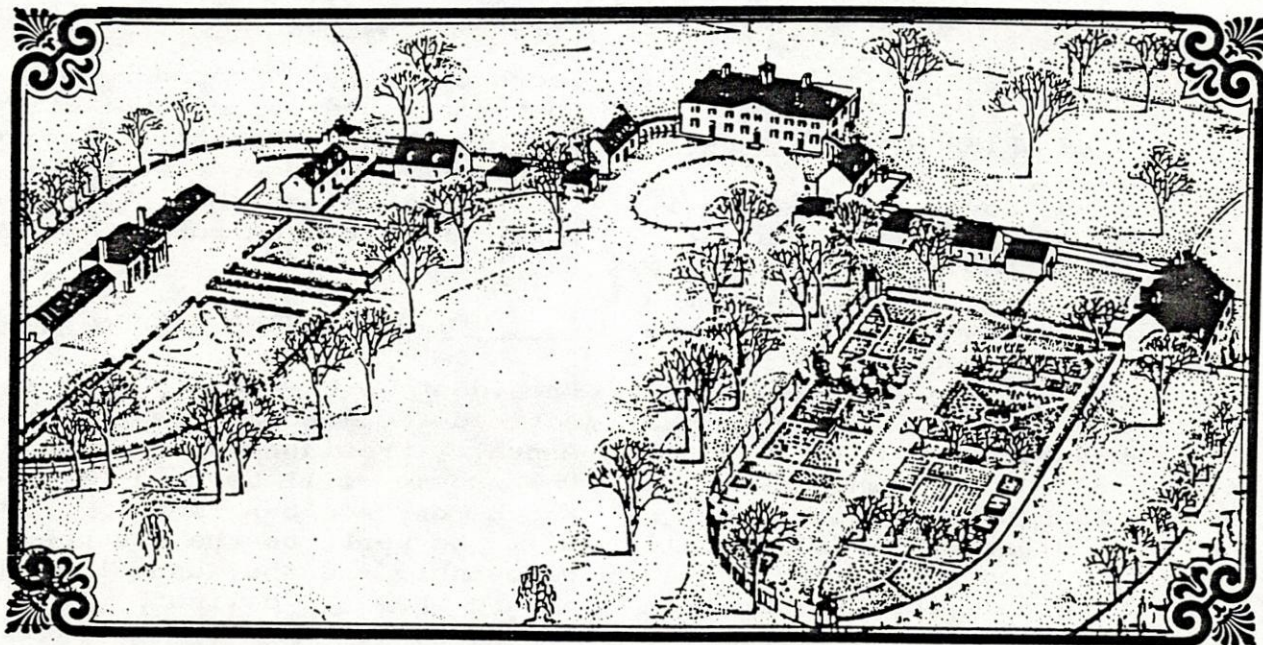
Vernon no less than fifteen times, sometimes for a few days, and other times for several months. After he turned the reigns of the Government over to John Adams, he finally was allowed to retired. Only two and one half years were left to him, but from surviving indications George Washington was content. He died on December 14th, 1799 and was survived by Martha until May of 1802. In the forty-five years that he owned Mount Vernon he dramatically improved it. His original purchase was for 2,600 acres, and at his death the estate consisted of 8,000 acres.

After their deaths the estate was inherited by Bushrod Washington, who was an Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He died in 1829, bequeathing the estate to his nephew John Augustine Washington. John lived only three years, and the property was held by his wife until 1850 when she conveyed it

to her son, John Augustine Washington, Jr. He found the estate to be totally unprofitable and in terrible condition.

Miss Ann Pamela Cunningham of South Carolina organized the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and through their efforts an agreement was reached in 1858 transferring the title to a two-hundred acre tract including the mansion, and all subsidiary buildings. Over the years they have added another three hundred acres to their holdings. The present estate's borders are relatively close to what they were in Washington's day.

Thanks to the Mount Vernon's Ladies Association George Washington's home has been preserved. The Association receives much of it's income from the admission fees and from private grants and maintains the estate as closely as they can to the original. Today it is the finest memorial to Washington.



THE ESTATE PLAN FOR MOUNT VERNON IN 1797
 (Courtesy of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.)

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

26 SEPTEMBER 1988



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. held it's September, 1988 meeting at Leon's Steak House in North Hollywood, California at 6:30 P.M. on August 29th, 1988. The presiding officer: President D.F. "Bill" Semerau.

1. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING

IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot James A. McKellep and SECONDED by Compatriot Berni K. Campbell that the minutes of the August 29th, 1988 Meeting be accepted as submitted.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer Charles M. Pitchford gave the Treasurer's report. He advised that the \$1765.00 designated for the Permanent fund has been transferred to that account. The Chapter is in good financial shape and will be able to continue all of it's projects in 1989.

3. THE VETERAN'S BOOK DRIVE

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell, Chairman of the Veteran's Book Drive Committee reported that he and his wife Mary made the monthly delivery of Three hundred and eighty five paper-back books to the Sepulveda Veteran's Hospital in Sepulveda in September. The famous Hollywood U.S.O., which was one of our four book donation points has been closed. We will still be collecting books for three (3) Veteran's Administration Hospitals: Sepulveda, Brentwood and Sawtelle.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAPTER'S MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell Chairman of the Chapter's Membership Committee reported that the application for Randy Pott has been recieved. IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot Campbell that Mr. Pott be accepted into membership in the Chapter. IT WAS SECONDED by Compatriot Robert B. Warwick.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. REPORT ON THE COLOR GUARD

Compatriot Donald Norman Moran reported that the Color Guard has been invited to participate in the Annual Montrose Christmas Parade and the invitation is being accepted. He asked that each Compatriot contact him if they here of a parade that we could get into.

6. THE MASSING OF THE COLORS

Secretary Donald Moran reported that it was time to start planning the annual George Washington Commemorative Massing of the Colors and that new ideas were need to encourage media attention.

7. THE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau advised the membership that the Annual President's Christmas Open House will be held at his Ranch on December 10th. Maps will be sent to the Chapter's Membership and the annual event should be a delight. Bill's ranch has it's own operating railroad, steam engine and all.

MINUTES
CONTINUED

8. PROPOSED ANNUAL AGENDA

Secretary Donald Norman Moran recommended that the Chapter adopt a new meeting format for the forthcoming year. The subject was discussed tabled until the October meeting.

9. EAGLE SCOUT DISPLAY

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau recommended at a display be created to be placed in the lobby of the Great Western Boy Scout Council office. The display to include the certificate, the new Scout metal, the patch, and details on the scholarship, plus the participation forms. IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

10. LETTER FOR PERMANENT FUND

Secretary Moran recommended that a special letter be sent to the membership soliciting donations to the permanent fund rather than rely on the dues notice. The Recommendation was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

11. LETTER OF RESIGNATION

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau received and acknowledged a letter of resignation from Compatriot Jeffery L. Towery, who has resigned as Second Vice President for personal reasons. Jeff has been very active in the Chapter and we will miss his input and participation.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE CHAPTER, THE MEETING WAS DECLARED ADJOURNED.

Donald Norman Moran, Secretary.

THE CASSAR
PRESIDENT'S AWARD
CONTEST
CHAPTER STATUS
OCTOBER

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Publicity..... | 120 |
| 2. TV or Radio..... | 0 |
| 3. New Members..... | 1,500 |
| 4. 50% attendance..... | 0 |
| 5. Supplements..... | 0 |
| 6. NSSAR Delegates..... | 0 |
| 7. CSSAR Delegates..... | 0 |
| 8. Reinstated members..... | 0 |
| 9. Ladies attending..... | 4 |
| 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..... | 0 |
| 17. Historical Site marked..... | 0 |
| 18. Awarding medals..... | 0 |
| 18a. Personally presented..... | 0 |
| 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 |
| 30. Participation in Parade..... | 0 |

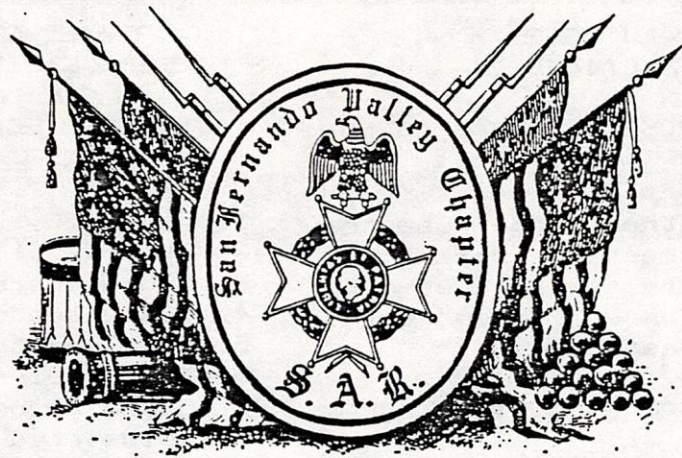
Monthly total (October)...1,714

Year-to-date total:.....25,161
 =====end=====

DID YOU KNOW



Compatriot Augustus di Zerega submitted this interesting SAR fact: Vice-Presidential candidate DAN QUAYLE has been a member of the Indiana Society SAR for the last twelve years.



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

To:

First
Class

Dated Material