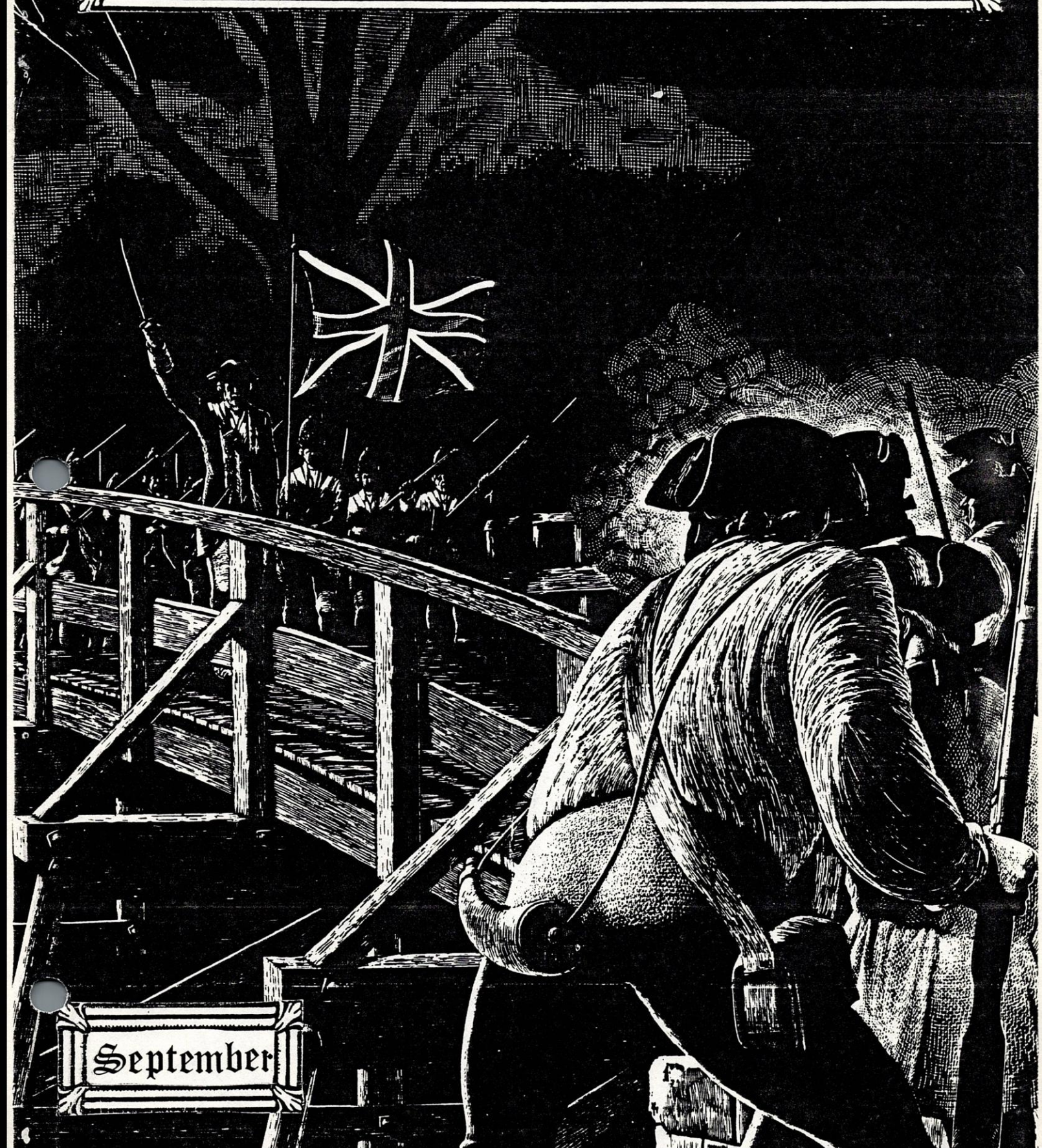


THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



September

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

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 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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 *
 * THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER,
 * CALIFORNIA SOCIETY,
 * SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
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 * Editor: Donald Norman Moran
 * 1248 Herzal Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535
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 * Volume VIII SEPTEMBER 1988 Number 9
 * *****

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THE FRONT COVER

* THE BATTLE FOR THE CONCORD BRIDGE
 * Taken from the Front Cover the Spring 1975
 * S.A.R. Magazine - Original art from Franklin
 * Watts, Incorporated.
 * *****

NOTICE

* The editorial content of this public-
 * ation 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, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1988

At 6:30 P.M. on Monday, September, 26th, 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.)

Applicants, the ladies and guests are most welcome. Please notify our Secretary if you plan on attending.

=====end=====

**FROM THE OFFICE OF
 THE STATE
 PRESIDENT**

The State President publishes a quarterly newsletter entitled the "Patriot Volunteer" which is distributed to all State Officers and Chapter Presidents and Secretaries. In the August issue President Wolfe advised that this Chapter was leading in the President's Award Contest in the medium size chapter category. He also has established a membership growth quota, which sets a goal for our Chapter of 5 new members.

A reminder: The forth coming CASSAR BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING, will be held at the Ramada Inn, 1900 Canterbury Road, Sacramento, California, 95815. (916)927-3492

MEETING SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, November 4th
 2:00 P.M. - - - Finance Committee
 3:30 P.M. - - - Bylaws Committee

SATURDAY, November 5th
 9:00 A.M. - - - Business meeting
 12:00 Noon - - - Luncheon
 6:00 P.M. - - - Reception
 7:00 P.M. - - - Banquet

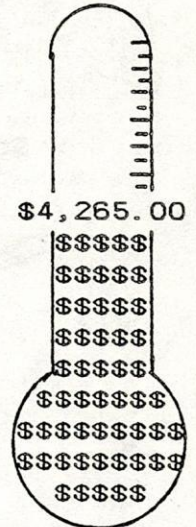
=====end=====

**OUR CHAPTER'S
 PERMANENT FUND**

THE DONORS

THE FUND

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



The Chapter has received several inquiries regarding the methods used to control the contributions to the Permanent Fund. The Chapter has invested \$2500.00 of the monies in the account and the balance of of \$1765.00 will be added to that investment. Under the provisions of our bylaws, three trustees of the Permanent Fund are to be elected at the November 1988 meeting, for three year terms to monitor this fund.

=====end=====

1889 - 1989
**A CENTURY OF
 COMMITMENT**



**TO OUR NATION'S
 HERITAGE**

OUR CHAPTER'S VETERAN'S BOOK DRIVE



One of the most important programs of the San Fernando Valley Chapter is our Veteran's Book Drive. Chairman Berni K. Campbell and his wife Mary make almost monthly deliveries to 3 V.A. Hospitals and to the U.S.O. We have averaged over 350 books a month thanks to the collection efforts of our Compatriots. On May 17th 1988, Compatriot Campbell accepted the Outstanding Service Award shown below (1/2 actual size) on behalf of the San Fernando Valley Chapter.

Outstanding Service Award

This certificate is awarded to

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

SAN FERNANDO CHAPTER

by the Veterans Administration

in recognition of outstanding service

to the Nation's Veterans

through the Voluntary Service program

Given at V A MEDICAL CENTER, SEPULVEDA this 17 day of MAY 19 88

Norm. E. Hensley

NORMAN E. HENSLEY

DIRECTOR



COMPATRIOTS
 IN THE NEWS



t. Col. CLIFTON R. BROOKS M.D. is a founding member of the San Fernando Valley Chapter and now a member of the Oklahoma Society (Cliff has maintained his membership in this Chapter) has been elected Registrar for the Oklahoma Society. Cliff attended the National Genealogy Committee meeting held at Louisville, Ky. (NSSAR HQ) by Genealogist-General Bob Burt. The Committee examined the operations of the genealogy office of the Society and will be making recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Compatriot/Sgt. JAMES R. McKELLEP of the United States Air Force was cited for Meritorious Service while assigned to the 35th Aircraft Generation Squadron, 35th Tactical Training Wing, George Air Force Base, California. James has been stationed in Korea since last spring

Compatriot AUDEL H. HICKS, has been honored with membership in the ORDER of the FOUNDERS and PATRIOTS. Presenting his membership was our own Compatriot Charles D. Barnard.

BIRTHDAYS

none

ANNIVERSARIES

- CHARLES and MARGARET BARNARD
01 September 1946
- ROBERT and VIRGINIA EMREY
19 September 1943
- CHARLES and TONI PITCHFORD
19 September 1941
- RICHARD and HELEN KAMMERER
23 September 1967

=====end=====

CORRECTIONS
 AND APOLOGIES

In the July Issue we ran the Chapter's roster of members (page 104) and the following corrections should be made:

ROGER E. ROBERTSON
 19441-136 Business Center Drive
 Northridge, California 91324

GLEN S. ROBERTSON
 14742 Featherhill Road
 Tustin, California 92860

RICHARD WELDEN MARSTON
 1224 Imperial Drive
 Glendale, California 91207

=====END=====

ODE TO THE
 TYPOGRAPHICAL
 ERROR

The Typographical error is
 a slippery thing and sly;
 You hunt it till you're dizzy
 but somehow it slides by;

Till the page come off the press
 it is strange how still it keeps
 It shrinks down in a corner,
 and never stirs or peeps;

That typographical error;
 Too small for human eyes,
 Till the ink is on the paper,
 Then it grows to mountain size;

The Editor stares in horror,
 Then grabs his hair and groans;
 The copyreader drops his head
 Upon his hands and moans;

The remainder of the issue
 May be clean as clean can be,
 But the Typographical error
 Is the only thing you see.

Reprinted from the Antelope
 Valley Genealogical Society's
 Newsletter, "The Prospector".

POSTERITY



s members of the Sons of the American Revolution we have dedicated a part of our lives to preserving our heritage. We honor the memory of our ancestors who served the cause of American independence and do much to preserve the relics of that age. As a Society, we look to the past. That is how it should be for that it what the SAR is all about. Not so the Founding Fathers we commemorate. They looked to the future. When you read their speeches, their letters, their books, you find a thread running through the whole of their hopes: POSTERITY!

General George Washington referred to POSTERITY several times in his famed "Farewell Address".

John Adams wrote his wife Abigail from Philadelphia on July 3rd, 1776 - "The Second day of July 1776 will be the most memorable Epoque in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated as the Day of Deliverance, by Solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty.....I can see that the End is more than worth all the means. And that POSTERITY will triumph in the Days Transaction, even altho we should rue it, which I trust in God we shall not."

Concern for their POSTERITY motivated the Founding Fathers to look to the future. To protect generations yet unborn They invented many great protections for the future: A Governement of the People, By the People and for the People. An independent judiciary, the

Bill of Rights, A civil controlled military, the "party" political system. The results were a Nation of truly free men, with equal opportunity and a real chance to improve their lives. A nation of great wealth with almost unlimited potential for growth.

Since the eighteenth century, we have not really improved on these inventions. And more importantly we are nolonger concerned with our POSTERITY. Yes, we do pay lip service saying we want our children to be better off than we are, but words come easier than actions.

In our life time we have gone from the wealthiest nation on earth to the largest debtor nation. We are leaving our children a personal debt of many thousands of dollars. We have polluted our environment to a point that many in the scientific community are saying it may be to late to correct the multitude of problems we have created.

Thanks to us our POSTERITY may be denied the many advantages we enjoyed, and may have been denied the basic right to exist!

Your editor is not suggesting that the S.A.R. should change it's stated objectives, for they are important and needed now more than ever, But, what I am saying is that we, the members of the S.A.R. are citizens of a single planet, and owe the same level of concern for our POSTERITY as did our forefathers, and should think about the legacy we are leaving our POSTERITY.

=====end=====

DID YOU KNOW



With the One hundredth anniversary of the Sons of the American Revolution coming up, it was thought that a few little known facts about the Society and some of the personalities that have been members would be of general interest.

Lt. CDR. CORYDON M. WASSELL, MD, Ship's Doctor, U.S.S. Marblehead and winner of the Navy Cross during the early days of World War II. Doctor Wassell was credited with evacuating the ship's wounded across Java. A movie was made of the heroic effort entitled "The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Starring Gary Cooper). BUT DID YOU KNOW: Upon returning to his native Arkansas, Dr. Wassell became State President of the Arkansas S.A.R.

PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER who was member of this Society, often spoke of his German ancestry and with the surname of "Eisehower" it really wasn't necessary. BUT DID YOU KNOW: Compatriot Dwight Eisenhower's Revolutionary War ancestor was JOHN PETER EISENHOWER of Pennsylvania.

When the Empire State Society (New York) presented him with his S.A.R. membership, General Eisenhower wrote that he very much appreciated being given the membership and then, in particular, thanked the members of the Society, who did the genealogical research that gained him the membership. It would be interesting to find out if "Ike" knew of his colonial ancestry prior to 1945.
 =====end=====

THE SAR MAGAZINE
 AND THE SAN
 FERNANDO VALLEY
 CHAPTER



The National Society's magazine, edited by Compatriot Winston Williams, is with out rival among the hereditary Societies, and for that matter against any publication. It is therefore extra special to see a mention, of your own Chapter, or one of your chapter's compatriots or a chapter activity in it. The Summer 1988 issue (Vol. LXXXIII, Number 1) is even more special because of the numerous times the San Fernando Valley Chapter and it's members were mentioned:

Page 5:

a photograph of our Color Guard at the Congress in Washington.

Page 6:

A photo of the presentation of the Carl F. Bessent Award.

Page 10:

Chapter mentioned under the Vice President Generals.

Page 12:

Under Committees Compatriots Roger E. Robertson - Legal Advisory Committee, Augustus de Zerega (a dual member) - Minuteman Award and Patriot Index Committees, Donald N. Moran - Newsletter Committee.

Page 13:

A photo of the Color Guard in the Memorial Day Parade.

Page 26:

Chapter News - The presentation to Glendale's Chief of police Thompson was reported.

Page 38:


New Compatriots Audel Hicks, Jr. and Craig Hicks mentioned.

Page 41:

Directory of Chapter Officers mentions Compatriot D.F. Bill Semerau and Don Moran

=====end=====

**NOTICE
 THE CHAPTER
 ELECTIONS**

ach year, in November, the San Fernando Valley Chapter elects its officers for the forthcoming year. The reason for the election being held in November is because our Chapter has traditionally held "the President's open house" in December, and our officers take office in January.

The Bylaws of the Chapter in agreement with both the State and National Bylaws, appoints the immediate former chapter president as Chairman of the Nominations Committee and all former chapter presidents as members of said committee. In addition to the recommendations of the Nominations Committee, any member in good standing can be nominated from the floor at the November meeting.


The officers positions to be filled are:

- PRESIDENT
- FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
- SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
- SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- REGISTRAR
- CHANCELLOR
- CHAPLAIN
- GENEALOGIST
- HISTORIAN
- THREE TRUSTEES OF THE PERMANENT FUND

If you are interested in serving in one of the above officers positions, please contact the Immediate Past Chapter President, Roger E. Robertson, Chairman of the Nominations Committee for 1989 at 19441-136 Business Center Drive, Northridge, Ca. 91324.

=====end=====

**WHAT HE FOUGHT
 FOR**

n the military museum at Fort Ticonderoga, New York is a very special relic of the American Revolutionary War. It is an old canvas knapsack that was carried by Private Benjamin Warner. He had enlisted on May 8th, 1775 from New Haven, Connecticut and fought throughout the entire eight years of war.

We have often asked what motivated these patriotic men to endure the deprivations of 19th century war. They suffered from hunger, cold, heat, vermin, lack of equipment and uniforms, and had to face the cannon shot, musket balls and cold steel of the finest army of their time.

On a faded scrap of paper found attached to the knapsack a trembling old hand wrote this epic answer:

"This Napsack I cary'd through the war of the revolution to achieve the Merican Independence. I transmit it to my olest sone Benjamin Warner, Jr. with directions to keep it and transmit it to his olest sone and so on to the latest posterity and, whilst one shred of it shall remane, never surrender your libertys to a foren envador or an aspiring demegog.

Benjamin Warner
 Ticonderoga, March 27, 1837"

In 1832, fifty years after the end of the Revolutionary War Benjamin Warner was granted a annual pension of \$62.06.

 Editors note: The spelling on Benjamin Warner's note was left uncorrected.

=====end=====



At the August meeting of the Chapter, it was unanimously approved that the Chapter will assume a leadership role in the California Society's National Congress Colors and Color Guard Committee chaired by our own Compatriot Donald N. Moran, who was appointed by State President Jess T. Wolfe. The Committee's responsibility is not limited to displaying the American flag at the head table, but rather using the Flag to underscore the patriotic motivations of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Chairman Moran has recommended that at the opening ceremonies of the Tuesday evening banquet that a special presentation of the History of our flag, by uniformed color guards accompanied by music be used. The Chapter has agreed to furnish two of the color guards. Below is a brief description of the Tuesday banquet presentation.

THE HISTORY OF "OLD GLORY"

The commentator takes the podium and announces the program.

THE ENGLISH FLAG

Carried by British "Redcoats" or Highlands.
(music - furnished by bagpipe and drum)

THE PINE TREE FLAG

carried by the Massachusetts S.A.R. Color Guard
(music - Yankee Doodle)

THE GRAND UNION FLAG

Carried by the Maryland S.A.R. Color Guard
(music - to be determined)

THE RATTLESNAKE FLAG

Carried by the New Jersey, S.A.R. Color Guard
(music - To be determined)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S (WASHINGTON'S) FLAG

Carried by the Washington Life Guards of our Chapter
(music - "God Bless Great Washington")

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

THE BETSY ROSS FLAG

Carried by the San Fernando Valley Color Guard
(music - "It's a Grand Old Flag" - a sing-a-long)

THE CALIFORNIA FLAG

Carried by the 2nd U.S. Dragoons - Fremont era
(music - "California here I come" - a sing-a-long)

THE TWENTY-EIGHT STAR FLAG

Carried by the Sons of Union Veterans
(music - "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" a sing-a-long)

THE STARS AND BARS (Confederate States Flag)

Carried by the Sons of Confederate Veterans
(music - "Dixie" a sing-a-long)

THE BANNER OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR SIREES

Carried by 3 members of the San Francisco Chapter in 1880 civilian
costume in honor of the San Francisco origins of the Organization
(music - "San Francisco" a sing-a-long)

THE FLAG OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Carried by 3 members of the San Francisco Chapter in 1889 civilian
costume in honor of the San Francisco origins of the S.A.R.

THE FORTY-EIGHT STAR FLAG

Carried by Three S.A.R. 's in World War One uniforms
(music - "Over there" - a Sing-a-long)

THE FORTY-EIGHT STAR FLAG

Carried by Three S.A.R. 's in World War Two uniforms
(music - to be determined a sing-a-long)

THE FIFTY STAR FLAG

Carried by the Inter-Service Armed Forces Color Guard
(music - "The Star Spangled Banner" a sing-a-long)

NOTES

With all of the Color Guards in front of the head table the
Pledge of Allegiance is given followed by a sing-a-long "God Bless
America" then the flags are posted behind the head table.

Each chapter of the California Society, S.A.R. will be
asked to either arrange for one of the color guards or to provide
one manned by their own members in the appropriate uniforms.

Additional color guards can be added if Chapter's have
acceptable ideas that enhance the presentation.

In order to provide the needed time for the presentation, we
will start the Tuesday evening banquet one half hour earlier than
usual. Ideas and/or suggestions would be appreciated by the
Chairman of the National Congress Colors and Color Guard Committee.

=====end=====

A REVOLUTIONARY WAR P.O.W. EXCHANGE
 "A GENERAL FOR A GENERAL"

By: Compatriot Audel H. Hicks

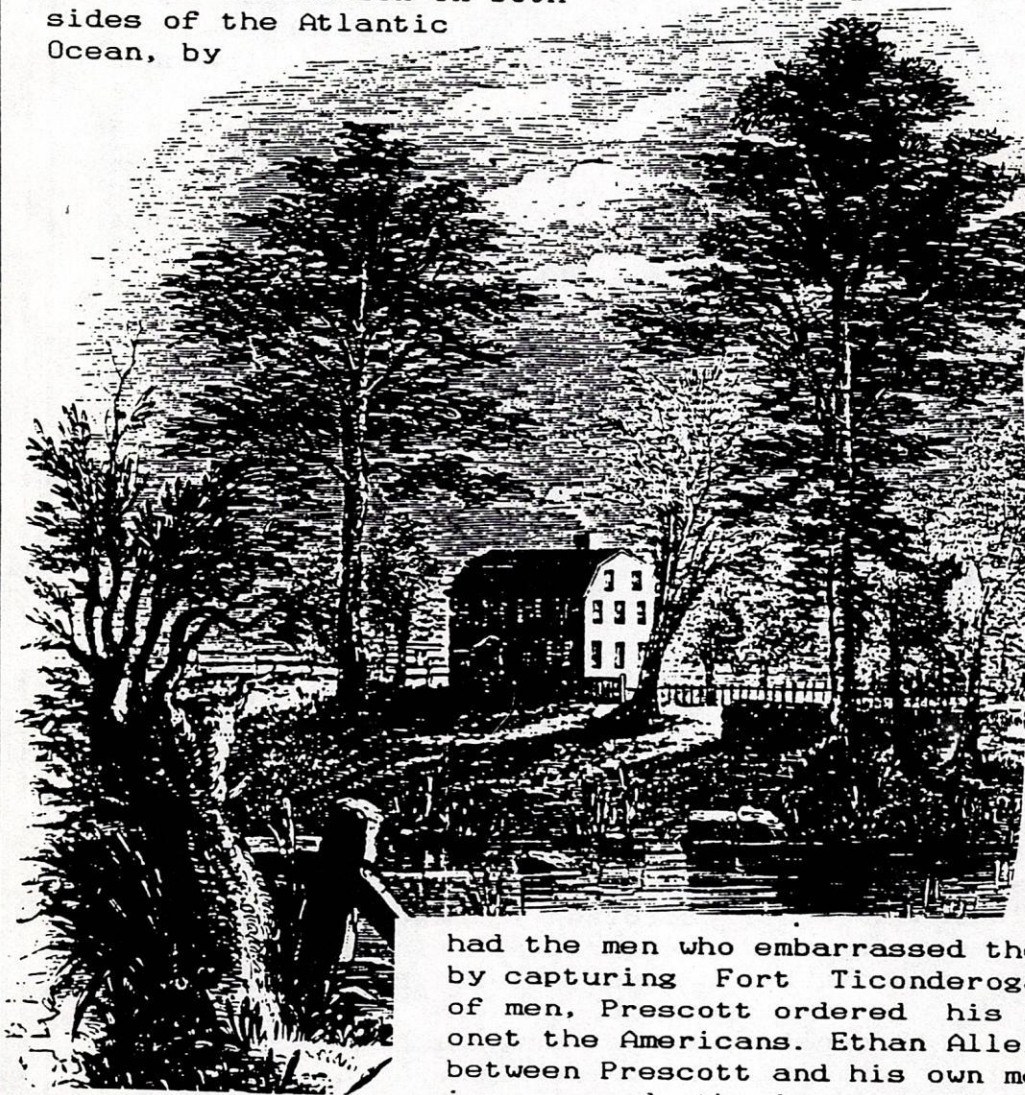
Achieving distinction during a time of war, particularly for a General officer, is usually accomplished by exceptional leadership, gallantry or simply being in the right spot at the right time. General Richard Prescott, (1725-1788) of his Majesty's forces in America achieved the dubious distinction on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, by

being taken prisoner and being exchanged, not once, but twice! To further enhance this unusual achievement, he was captured on one occasion from his own headquarters, protected by a formidable force of some four-thousand regular soldiers of the king!

General Prescott began his North American Militia as a Colonel Commanding the "7th" Regiment of foot (Royal Fusiliers) in Canada. He was well known for his cruelty to both civilians and prisoners of war alike.

One story demonstrating his brutal nature occurred when he took Ethan Allen and forty of the now famous Vermont "Green Mountain Boys" prisoner in the failed attempt to capture the British held Canadian city of Montreal. When he discovered that he

had the men who embarrassed the British Empire by capturing Fort Ticonderoga with a handful of men, Prescott ordered his infantry to bayonet the Americans. Ethan Allen placed himself between Prescott and his own men. Allen's action caused the irate Prescott to retract the order. Prescott had Allen placed in chains on a British Man-of-War (H.M.S. Adamant) and then advised Col. Allen "I will not execute you now,



PRESCOTT'S
 HEADQUARTERS
 IN RHODES ISLAND

but you shall grace a halter at Tyburn! God damn ye!"

General Prescott was to become a prisoner before the Canadian campaign was over. American Major-General Richard Montgomery bluffed the British garrison at Montreal into abandoning their fortifications and attempting to escape to Quebec. Most of those in the attempt were captured, including Prescott. General Montgomery wrote of the surrender: "I blush for His Majesty's troops, such an instance of poltroonery [of cowardice] I never met with!"

Prescott remained a prisoner of war until he was exchanged for American General John Sullivan in September of 1776.

Major General Charles Lee, 2nd in Command of the entire American Army was captured by Capt. Banastre Tarleton of the famed 18th Light Dragoons on 13th of December, 1776 at Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Lee, at that time, was considered key and critical to the American cause. It was therefore thought necessary to secure a British General, of equal importance for immediate exchange.

In November of 1776, General Prescott was again promoted and was third in Command of the British expeditionary force that occupied Newport, Rhode Island. In December, 1776 General Henry

Clinton, commander of the expedition withdrew all but 4,000 troops and sailed to New York, leaving the command of the remaining garrison to Prescott.

Prescott's attitude toward Americans was extremely bad. The Reverend Arthur A. Ross in his "Historical Discourse" cited several instances wherein General Prescott wrongly imprisoned

citizens of Newport, denying them outside communications with their families. As example of the contempt he felt for all the colonials and their lawful rights, he had their stone front steps removed and with them had a side walk created for his daily walk along Pelham Street. After the British evacuation of Newport, it must have been an amusing scene to see the prominent citizens of Newport searching and carrying home the stones of their door steps.

Noted Revolutionary War historian Benson J. Lossing wrote of Prescott: "He was a tyrant at heart and, having the opportunity he exercised a tyrant's doubtful prerogatives". Infuriated by the conduct of Prescott, the citizenry of Rhode Island devised several plans to remove their oppressor. None held any promise until Lt. Col. William Barton (1748-1831) of Providence, came upon the scene. He was aware of the need to capture



COLONEL WILLIAM BARTON

a British General for exchange for General Charles Lee. He was an officer of exceptional ability and recognized the service he would be doing for his native Rhode Island by ridding them of Prescott and at the same time securing the release of General Lee. His plan was one of the boldest of the entire war.

For security reasons Barton kept the actual details of his plan to himself, still he secured volunteers to participate in a "hazardous enterprise of great benefit".

Prescott had his field headquarters in the home of a Quaker named Overing, approximately five miles north of Newport. Barton's plan was to surprise and take him prisoner right under the watchful eyes of his command. Then, to be transported overland to General Washington's headquarters at Middlebrook on the Raritan.

In the dead of the night of July 9th, 1777, Prescott briefed his small command then embarked in four whale boats from Warwick Point, cross the Narraganset Bay to Prescott's Headquarters on

on Rhode Island. With muffled oars they rowed past British Frigates moored midstream, and passed guard boats patrolling the straights between Prudence and Patience islands. Col. Barton noted that they heard the cry "All's Well" from one of the frigates. Silently the raiding party made it's way to Coddington's Cove, the mouth of a small stream near the Overton's Farm. At this point, Barton finally confided in his men, explaining the mission in detail. He assigned a handful of soldiers to protect the whale boats, the rest were divided into five squads, each commanded by an officer. Barton pledged his sacred honor to always be in the forefront of this dangerous undertaking, and he forbade the taking of any plunder and imposed a complete silence at all times. One of the five squads was to be held in reserve, near the Overton house, the other four were to affect the actual capture. The five squads moved off into the dark summer night. The main force, under Barton's command had to pass between the British

+++++

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The following is a compiled list of the officers and men who participated in the capture of General Richard Prescott:

Officers

Major Eleazer Adams, Captain Samuel Philips, Lieutnants Samuel Potter & Joshua Babcock, and Ensigns Andrew Stanton, and John Wilcox.

Privates

Samuel Apis, Thomas Austin, Joel Briggs, Isaac Brown, William Bruff, Samuel Cory, Pardon Cory, Clark Crandall,

Alderman Crank, Billington Crumb, Joseph Denis, Henry Fisher, Sampson George, Jedediah Grenale, Joseph Guild, James Haines, Richard Hare, Charles Hassett, John Hunt, Clark Packard, Daniel Page (a Narraganset Indian), James Parker, Benjamin Pren, James Potter, Joseph Ralph, Jack Sherman, Oliver Simmons, Jack Sisson, Nathan Smith, Jedemiah Thomas, Darius Wale, James Weaver, Thomas Wilcox, and a coxswain (boat-steerer) whose name was either Howe or Whiting.



THE CAPTURE OF GENERAL PRESCOTT

guard-house of Prescott's personal guard and an encampment of British Light Draggons. The other four squads took a more circuitous route, and toop up positions to watch each of the doors of the farm house. Colonel Barton's squad was to gain entrance and make the actual capture. As Barton approached the house a sentry challenged them. Barton gave no reply. A second time the British soldier demanded the countersign. Barton answered "We have no countersign to give." than added without a

moments hestiation added: "Have you seen any deserters here tonight?" The ploy had the desired affect, the guard was deceived into thinking that he had challenged a Provost patrol and thusly was put a ease. He did not realize the truth until one of Barton's men grabbed his musket. The soldier was bound and told that he would be put to death if he made a sound.

Assuring himself that the rest of his men had the house surrounded, Barton boldly entered the front door. Mr. Overton, the owner sat in the main room reading, the rest of his family having already retired. Barton quietly asked where General Prescott's room was. Overton silently pointed directly overhead. Barton took

five men, including Jack Sissons, with him and quietly went up the stairs. He tried the door to the General's room and found it to be locked. Instantly Private Sissons drew back, than burst through the door, head first.



JACK SISSONS BREAKING DOWN THE DOOR TO GENERAL PRESCOTT'S ROOM

General Prescott sprang from his bed, Colonel Barton quietly advised him that he was a prisoner of the Continental Army and to make no sound under pain of instant death. The General asked permission to dress, but Barton denied him knowing that any delay could be fatal. Placed between two of Barton's men, Prescott was escorted from the house.

In the next room, Prescott's Aide-de-camp, Major William Barrington heard the commotion and realized what was happening. He attempted to escape, presumably to obtain help, by jumping out his second story bedroom window, but was captured by Colonel Barton's well placed men as soon as he hit the ground. He, the sentry and Prescott were marched down to

the cove and the awaiting boats. The crossing was successfully made and by midnight they were safely ashore at Warwick Point, the mandated silence was broken. Prescott told Colonel Barton "Sir, you have made a bold push tonight". Barton replied with a modest "We have been fortunate."

A Captain Elliot arrived with a coach and transported the prisoners to Providence, arriving at sunrise. Two days later, Prescott was escorted to General George Washington's headquarters.

The capture of General Prescott received a lot of press coverage. The LONDON CHRONICLE for September 27-30, 1777 told it's readers that the General had been carried off "naked, unanointed, unanealed," and a clever satirist put the local gossip to rhyme:

"What various lures there
are to ruin a man;
Woman, the first and foremost,
all bewitches!
A nymph once spoiled a General's
mighty plan,
And gave him to the foe -
without his breeches."

The CONTINENTAL JOURNAL of July 17th, reported on the capture of Prescott and added a comparison with the recent capture of General Lee.

"This bold and important enterprize must reflect the highest honor on Colonel Barton and his little party. A Lt. Col. of Horse, with at least 70 Light Dragoons, took Major General Lee (betrayed by a tory) five miles from his troops. A Lt.Col. of Foot, with only 38 privates and 6 officers, has taken a Chief Commander, when almost encircled by an Army and Navy."

The exploits of Colonel Barton and his men did not go unrewarded. Declaration of Independence signer John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that the expedition in Rhode Island had raised their spirits, and that Col. Barton conducted himself and his men with gallantry. Continental Congress President John Hancock wrote Colonel Barton and requested that he "communicate to the officers and men under your command the distinguished mark of approbation of their Country." Later Lt.Col. Barton was presented an elegant sword and promoted to full Colonel.

Colonel Barton was seriously wounded at the Battle of Bristol Ferry the following year and thusly was prevented from further military service. He continued to serve his Country through public service and was a member of the Rhode Island state convention when they adopted the Constitution in 1790.

In 1824, Barton was placed under house arrest in Vermont for failing to paid a judgement against him over a disputed tract of land. The Marquis de Lafayette, who was making his grand tour of the United States heard of the gallant soldiers plight, and personally paid the judgement in full.

William Barton returned to his native Providence, Rhode Island and lived to the ripe old age of 84, dying in 1831.

American General Charles Lee was exchanged for General Richard Prescott, in April of 1778. Lee later disgraced himself at the Battle of Monmouth. Prescott was promoted in 1782 to Lieutenant General, and died 6 years later in 1788.

=====end=====

THE CASSAR
PRESIDENT'S AWARD
CONTEST
CHAPTER STATUS
AUGUST

1. Publicity.....	240
2. TV or Radio.....	0
3. New Members.....	0
4. 50% attendance.....	0
5. Supplements.....	0
6. NSSAR Delegates.....	0
7. CSSAR Delegates.....	0
8. Reinstated members.....	0
9. Ladies attending.....	3
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.....	2,000
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..	150

Monthly total (August).....2,443

Year-to-date total:.....21,042

Compatriot Berni Campbell delivered 400 books to the Brentwood V.A. Hospital. 8" of newspaper space was obtained. Item 30 was added by President Wolfe. 50 points for participating in a parade. We have three times so far this year.

=====end=====

MEETING MINUTES

25 JULY 1988



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. held it's July meeting at Leon's Steak House in North Hollywood, California at 6:30 P.M. on July 25th, 1988. The presiding office: President D.F. "Bill" Semerau.

1. MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING

IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot James A. McKellep and SECONDED by Compatriot Audel H. Hicks that the minutes of the June 27th, 1988 Meeting be accepted as submitted.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau gave the treasurer's report in the absence of our treasurer. The Chapter is in good financial shape. However donations to the permanent fund have deminished in the past few months.

3. THE VETERAN'S BOOK DRIVE

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell, Chairman of the Veteran's Book Drive Committee reported that 400 books were delivered to the Brentwood Veteran's Hospital in June. This was the first delivery to that, our third hospital and they were much appreciated.

4. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell Chairman of the Membership Committee reported that several applications are at hand but are waiting additional documentation. We will do well this year.

5., REPORT ON THE COLOR GUARD

Compatriot Donald Norman Moran reported that the California Society, S.A.R. was well represented by the Color Guard which uniforms were loaned by the Chapter to the State Society. The Guard was manned by Arthur Wm. Barrett, Arthur Ogilvy, Paul Davis, Colonel Richard F. Locke, Jr. and himself. A full pictorial report will appear in the next issue of the Valley Compatriot.

6. THE ORATION CONTEST

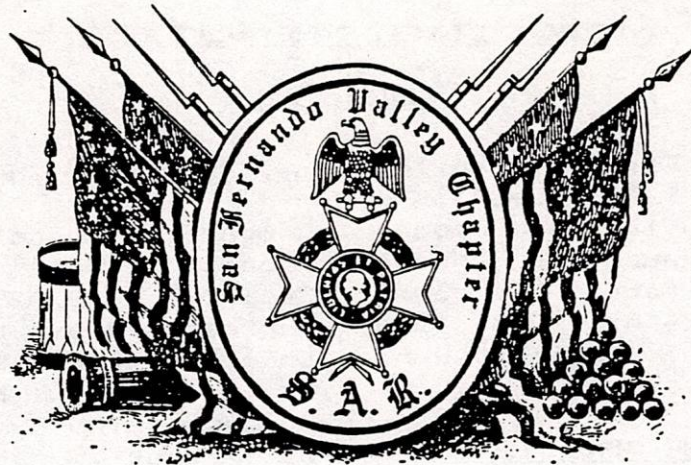
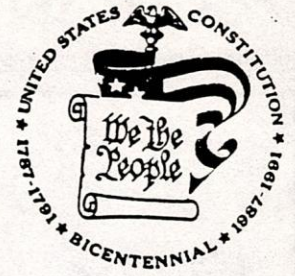
President D.F. "Bill" Semerau reported that because of a family emergency, Heather Consoli was unable to attend the Contest in Washington.

7. REPORT ON THE 98TH CONGRESS

Compatriot Donald N. Moran reported on the 98th Congress. Among the items that will affect the Chapter is an approved \$2.00 dues increase, the creation of a Senior Vice President-General, who will succeed to the President-General position and finally the election of the Western District Vice President-General, the undersigned. Of importance was a measure that would transfer the right to increase dues from the Congress to the Board of Trustees. It was defeated. The Chapter won the Carl F. Bessent award for "Best Newsletter".

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

Donald Norman Moran, Secretary



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

To:

First
Class

Dated Material