



Volume 11, Issue 2

Original Charter 1924 • Reactivated 1994

March 2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT
DAVID GILLIARD



Welcome to our March Newsletter. I am pleased to report that your SAR Chapter continues to be a vital part of the community. Members who braved the morning snow in Auburn and the surrounding area to attend our February 19th meeting at Lou La Bonte's were treated to a very interesting guest speaker – Mr. Jack Duncan - who talked about America's Atomic testing program, which he played a key role in throughout the 50s, 60s, and 70s. After an informative PowerPoint slide presentation and Q&A, Gold Country members gave Jack a warm and well deserved round of applause. Jack is a true patriot who has, and continues to, serve his country well.

The Classroom Presentation portion of the Annual Americanism Poster Contest has concluded. This year, we visited twenty-six 5th grade classrooms in nine schools and spoke to 801 students. Students and teachers alike enjoyed our presentation on the Battle of Cowpens. I want to thank Ron and Conni Barker, Wayne Griswold, Barry Hopkins, Smitty Virgil and Earl Young for donating so much time and effort to make this program a success. Poster judging will take place in March – more details will be sent out by email soon and posted on the website.

One new program I want to highlight is the Chapter's recognition of Patriot's Day – April 19th. We will be displaying our Revolutionary War flags and answering questions from the public from 10:00 AM to 1:00PM on April 19th at Central Square in Auburn (corner of High and Lincoln streets). I am hoping to see as many of you as possible come out to help us highlight this important date in U.S. history.

If you have not visited our new website, please do so at www.GoldCountrySAR.com. There is also a Facebook link on the website for those of you on Facebook.

One of the goals of our Newsletter Editor, Ron Barker, is to highlight Gold Country members in the newsletter – so we can all learn more about each other. I fully support Ron's goal and encourage you to do so as well should Ron contact you in the future.

In liberty and service,

Dave Gilliard

In This Issue

<i>The President's Message</i>	1
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	2
<i>American Revolution Series</i>	3
<i>Member News</i>	6
<i>Massing of Colors</i>	8
<i>Secretary's Minutes</i>	10
<i>Chapter Cowpens Presentations</i>	12

The California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

CHAPTER OFFICERS**2010 - 2011 TERM****PRESIDENT****David A. Gilliard**

(916) 663-9605

DGilliard@ncbb.net**FIRST VP****Michael Holmes**

(530) 889-2780

NJRHS@inreach.com**SECOND VP****Dale Ross**

(530) 274-1838

cr7861@jps.net**SECRETARY****Ron Barker**

(530) 205-9581

ron0729con@comcast.net**TREASURER****Bruce N. Choate**

(530) 878-3783

BruceC4193@aol.com**REGISTRAR****Smith "Smitty" Virgil**

(530) 885-9038

SWVirgil@SBCglobal.net**HISTORIAN****Barry E. Hopkins**

(530) 906-4562

Pau.Hana@Yahoo.com**CHAPLAIN****Vacant****CHANCELLOR****Craig M. Hopkins**

(503) 419-6320

Craig.Hopkins@Comcast.net**PAST PRESIDENT****Keith L. Bigbee**

(530) 878-0144

kckbigbee@auburninternet.com

Calendar of Events

Nationalwww.sar.org**March 10-12, 2011 - Spring 2011****Leadership (Trustees) Meeting,
Louisville, KY****July 8-13, 2011 - 121st Annual****Congress, Marriot Winston-
Salem, Winston-Salem, NC****Sept 30—Oct 1, 2011 - Fall****Leadership Meeting, NSSAR HQ,
Louisville, KY****State**www.CaliforniaSAR.org**April 8-10, 2011 – California Society****The 136th Spring Meeting
Crown Plaza, Irvine**

Patriots' Day, April 19th, is a civic holiday commemorating the anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the American Revolutionary War. It is observed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and state of Maine, and is a public school observance day in Wisconsin. Observances and re-enactments of these first battles of the American Revolution occur annually at Lexington Green in Lexington, Massachusetts, and The Old North Bridge in Concord, Massachusetts.

The next Gold Country Chapter meeting is**Saturday, March 19th at 9:00 AM****Lou La Bonte's Restaurant, Auburn**

The Gold Country Chapter's 2011 regular meetings will be held on the 3rd Saturday of each month except in May, September and December. During these months special meeting dates occur in order to accommodate other Chapter or California Society activities. All regular meetings are held in the banquet room of Lou La Bonte's Restaurant, 13460 Lincoln Way, Auburn, (530) 885-9193, at 9:00AM. See you there!

**Visit our Chapter, State and National Websites**

GoldCountrySAR.com ♦ CaliforniaSAR.org ♦ SAR.org



**The submission deadline for the April edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, March 25, 2011.**

The Forty-Niner is the official newsletter of the Gold Country Chapter, California Society, SAR. Statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect or state those of the Editor or of the California or National Societies, SAR. All content, photographs and graphics contained herein are subject to copyright law. Newsletter or Website related questions or submissions should be directed to Chapter Editor: Ron Barker at (530) 205-9581 or email ron0729con@comcast.net. All Rights Reserved

The American Revolution Month-by-Month

March 1781

North Carolina

Moving Towards Final Victory

By Andrew Jackson Stough, III

Edited by Ron Barker



The American Revolution – Month by Month

March, 1781

Major General Nathaniel Greene had crossed the Dan River into Virginia and was secure. The Dan was in winter flood and could not be forded, nor could Cornwallis use boats, because Kosciusko, on Greene's orders, had secured every available boat the British southern Army could potentially use. Denied any contact with Greene, Cornwallis took stock of his own situation. In his haste to catch and destroy Greene, he had violated a basic military concept of the British Army by destroying his supply train and any other non-essentials at Ramsour's Mills. His nearest location for the total restocking of supplies and reinforcements sufficient for his army was in Wilmington, North Carolina more than 200 miles away over poor roads and swollen rivers. He could not live off the land as all available cattle and other foodstuffs had already been seized, arousing much bitterness among the population. To turn back from his encampment at Hillsboro without confronting Greene would be admitting defeat and he would lose the faith of the Tories in the South who made up much of his scattered occupation force of approximately 8,000 men in the three southern states.

Greene too had problems. He faced the loss of most of the militia who typically were signed up for six weeks of duty. Actual combat effective time is typically in the vicinity of 23 days out of the 42 days of the six week enlistment. This unfortunate situation was due to a portal-to-portal arrangement. Militia travel from home and the return journey was included in the enlistment. Greene could not remain inactive very long because if enlistments ended, it would destroy the battle effectiveness of his force.

Greene crossed into North Carolina February 27 with less than 1500 men. He proceeded toward Cornwallis at Hillsboro, where to the annoyance of Cornwallis he did a provocative little dance remindful of a child's game "Catch me if you can." Greene was constantly changing position, now near, now moving farther away, then back toward Cornwallis. Tarleton, annoyed by the lack of action, was playing a little dance in an attempt to determine what Greene was up to. Tarleton wanted to draw out the American forces and inflict punishment on them.

The night of March 5, American Col. Benjamin Williams, encamped at Wetzell's Mills several miles from Greene, detected movement toward the American lines. At 3 AM March 6, Cornwallis, in force, hoped that by attacking Williams he would draw Greene into combat and defeat the Southern Army while its forces were small. Forewarned, the Americans under Williams were able to escape after a short skirmish in which losses were about evenly divided--about 20 killed or wounded on each side. Greene did not take the bait and was not affected. Cornwallis, frustrated by his failure to draw out Greene, withdrew to his encampment.

Greene's forces were increasing. Pickens raised 700 militia and he, Caswell and Williams were harassing Cornwallis. Their main purpose was to keep watch on Cornwallis and dispirit the Tory population from

assisting him. Meanwhile, von Steuben sent 400 newly trained Virginia Continentals south. North Carolina sent more than 1,000 militia, while Virginia sent over 1,600 militia. The numbers are impressive but the quality of the new troops was unknown, since none had any major combat experience. In addition were the old tried and true standbys, Continentals from Delaware and Maryland as well as Light Horse Henry Lee's and William Washington's cavalries.



Col. William Washington



Col. Richard Henry Lee



Col. Banastre Tarleton



Baron Von Steuben



Col Benjamin Williams

Battle at Guilford Courthouse

Both generals knew that the time had come for a settlement, but it was Greene who chose the time and place – Guilford Courthouse in central North Carolina near Greensboro, where he set up camp on March 14. Cornwallis was eager to recoup his reputation by destroying the Southern Army of 4,400 men. However, of those 4,400, only 1,490 infantry were Continentals and of those, only the 630 from Maryland and Delaware had ever seen combat. Cornwallis' resources of 1,900 men were smaller, but all were well trained, seasoned veterans of battles in both Europe and America. They were also better supported by artillery.

The morning of March 15, Cornwallis broke camp early and without breakfast set off for Guilford Courthouse. The most detailed account of the battle that I have seen can be found in Ward's "The War of the Revolution." To include all the details would require pages of text. Therefore only the essential elements of this important battle that was a prelude to Yorktown and the end of the war are discussed here.

The day's first event was action between Lee and Tarleton. Lee, watching the British advance, was accosted by Tarleton who was in advance of the main body. At first Lee retreated until forced. He then turned on Tarleton, driving him back almost to the head of the British van. Lee then departed hastily to notify Greene of the approaching army. Results were inconclusive, except for initial drubbing of Tarleton and Lee's report to Greene.

Meanwhile, Greene was positioning his troops in 3 lines. Line one was North Carolina militia, Line 2 line was Virginia militia located about 300 yards to the rear, and Line 3, composed of Continentals, was drawn up around the courthouse which stood on a small hill. Cavalry was stationed to the left and right of the Continentals along with some battle-tested irregulars. When all lines were established, Greene went among the militia telling the first line to hold for 3 firings, then to retreat behind the second line who would perform the same way and fall back on the third line. Every man would be in the line of fire. There would be no reserve units. It would be "fight or die."

About 1:30 PM, the British began their assault marching resolutely, as if on parade. Their long red line extended all the way across an open area and into the woods. When the red coats came within range, the militia fired as one man tearing gaping holes in the British line, yet they came on as if nothing had occurred. When within range of their muskets, the total British line fired, following with a bayonet charge against the first line. The British stopped the charge when it became apparent that the first line was lying behind a rail fence with rifles aimed and waiting. There was a pause until British Colonel James Webster advanced to the lead, urging

his men to advance. The British resumed their charge amidst devastating fire. The militia, their task completed, ran *pell mell* through the second line to safety.



The British were now beyond the cleared ground and the fighting was into the woods. Unlike most recollections, not all militia fled. One company of North Carolinians led by a Captain Forbes joined Lee on the left, while Virginia militia held their position. Campbell, Lee and Forbes were finally pushed up to a height to the south of the main battleground, and remained separated there until the end of the battle.

Gunby's Virginians were also pushed back but were rescued by Lt. Col. Washington's horses and continued in the battle. A hole opened in the second line and Colonel Webster swept forward in a bayonet charge against the third line. When Webster's troops were within 100 feet, the third line opened fire and Gunby called for bayonets. The British were driven down into a ravine and up the other side in total disarray. Webster's troops were now beaten and in disorder.

Some believe that if Greene had loosed his cavalry as Morgan had at Cowpens, the entire British army might have been destroyed. It was not to be. Morgan could take the risk. Loss of Morgan's force's would have disastrous, but there would still have been Greene's and Huger's armies. Defeat of Greene at this juncture would mean the end of the Southern Army resulting in Britain dominating the south. Greene could not risk losing his entire army while the bloody fight was not yet over. Toward evening Greene began, in good order, a strategic retreat – not the victor who held the field, but the general who had paid the lesser price of battle. Greene lost 78 killed and 183 wounded out of his 4400—less than 6%. Cornwallis, with 1,900 men, lost 93 killed and 439 wounded—27%! The toll on British and Hessian officers was devastating, 29 killed or wounded. On top of this, many of the British wounded died during the night in the midst of a soaking rain.

Greene lost the battle at Guilford Court House but won the southern campaign as Cornwallis abandoned the Carolinas, eventually moving on to Virginia. But the southern campaign was not over. There were still

8,000 British, Hessians and Tories in the three states. Greene's next move would be to eliminate these scattered garrisons, individually or as a set piece battle depending upon the enemy.

March 11, Spanish Admiral Don Bernardo de Galvez arrived off Pensacola with a force of between 3,000 to 4,000 men (Sources give differing numbers) for the capture of Fort George, commanded by British General John Campbell who had previously lost Mobile to Galvez. He did not accomplish the landing until March 17. The fort could not be immediately reduced, so he established a siege. It would be May before the fort surrendered.

Next – Cornwallis decides to pursue his original strategy of capturing Virginia while Greene moves to reduce the scattered British outposts.

References; Enc. Britannica; Lancaster's "The American Revolution" Ward's "The War of the American Revolution"; SAR Magazine Spring, 1997 and Fall 96; Utley and Washburn's "Indian Wars"; Higginbotham's "The war of American Independence."

Not for sale or republication, The American Revolution, Month-by-Month series was written and is published solely for the benefit of the members of Gold Country Chapter #7, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. B



Member News

New Member: Paul Hatling

Paul was born in Los Angeles and lived there until he was 11 years old. And then his family moved to Santa Clara, CA, where he lived until he retired to Grass Valley in 2008.



Paul graduated from San Jose State University in 1970 with a degree in Physical Education and a minor in Math. He got his Master's Degree in Physical Education in 1978 from SJSU. He was in the US Army Reserve for 6 years.

Paul was a high school math teacher for 32 years in Santa Clara and Los Gatos and coached football and wrestling for 11 of those years.

Paul and his wife of 42 years, Carolyn, have a son, Mike, and a daughter, Catherine, who are both married.

Paul likes to play golf, work in the yard, hike, read, and paint.

Paul's patriot ancestor's name was Samuel Truax. He fought from the state of Pennsylvania. His great, great, grandfather was Philippe du Trieux, who was one of the settlers of New York (New Amsterdam) in 1624. Samuel was born in New Jersey, but moved to Bedford County, PA before the Rev. War. After the war, Samuel was a member of the Rangers of the Frontier, which was a group of men in the early 1780's who rode the countryside protecting settlers from Indians and other dangers.

Paul joined the SAR because of interest in promoting the preservation of our history

David Livingstone Perkins

David was born in a two room home converted from a grain storage building in Claremont, South Dakota. His early youth was that of a typical farm boy-early to rise, chores, school, more chores, homework and early to bed.

Grade school was in a one-room country school with all eight years taught by one teacher and he later wrote a book, *Tales of a One-Room Country School*.

He graduated from Claremont High School in 1945, second in a class of twelve and he joined the Navy and left in 1953 as a Chief Petty Officer.

He worked at Lockheed Aircraft, then Cape Canaveral, then a field service engineer with the Air Force for General Dynamics in San Diego working on the F-102 Delta Dart and F106 Delta Dagger. He was then assigned by General Dynamics to the Air Force overhaul facility at Sacramento, where he met his future wife, Isabel Ramos. He went to Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. in Sunnyvale, CA, when his job at General Dynamics came to an end. He spend 29

years working on the Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM), Polaris, Poseidon and then Trident.

In 1992, David retired and they moved to Grass Valley where they build their dream home. David and Isabel were both very active in the community with David writing, computer clubs, painting, genealogy and David was president of The Gold Country Chapter of SAR. David taught computer classes and genealogy classes.

In 2004, with increasing medical problems they moved to Sun City Lincoln Hills where David continues his teaching.



Smitty is taking care of Winona who just had a knee replacement. I am sure that cards, notes and calls would be appreciated by both.

Final Chapter Poster Contest judging will be at the March 19 Chapter Meeting at Lou La Bonte's. Show up and I am sure you will be amazed at the talent of 5th graders. Our chapter is going for a Three-peat as we have won poster contest the last two years at NSSAR.



Massing of the Colors
National Sons of the American Revolution
National Color Guard Event
Sponsored by the Sons of Liberty Chapter

On February 20th, 2011, the 29th the Massing of the Colors was held at Forest Lawn Cemetery. It is a Salute to Our Armed Forces and George Washington's Birthday. This event has always been about the great young people who participate in college ROTC and High School JROTC programs, and this year 23 ROTC/JROTC units participated, along with color guards from active Army, Marine and Air Force units. When you add in the more than 25 Sons of the American Revolution color guard units and reenactment groups, a large contingent of US Volunteers-Joint Services Command members, and lineage society members, over 200 individuals participated. It was quite a display for the more than 200 spectators!



Hall of Liberty

America's largest historical mosaic, the Birth of Liberty stands 162 feet long and 28 feet high, depicting 25 famous scenes of our struggle for independence.



Close up of Mosaic Hall of Liberty



Ron & Conni Barker, Joe Doley, NASSAR Color Guard Commander and, Stephen Renoff



Daniel Morgan and rifleman



Continental Marines



Massing of Colors presentation was done in front of a statue of George Washington with Old North Church of Paul Revere fame in background



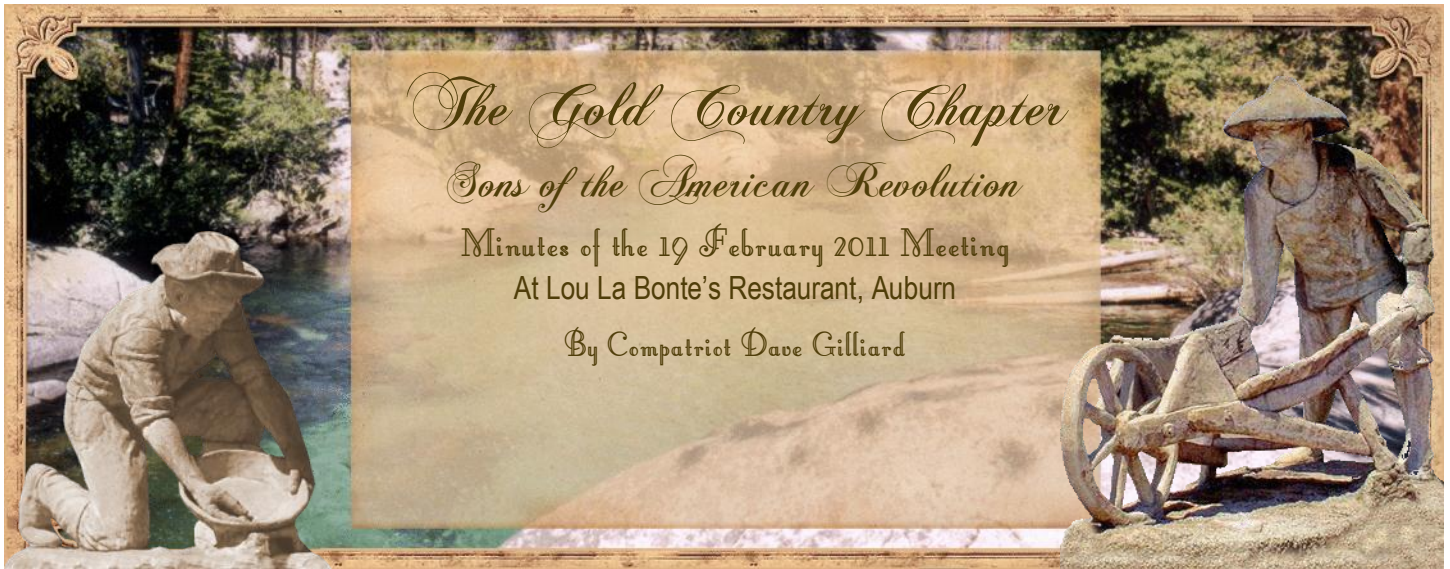
Even the Red Coats came to Celebrate George Washington's Birthday and Our Freedom



Lee's Legion



George Washington receiving folded flag



1. Opening Ceremonies

Meeting called to order by Pres. Dave Gilliard at 9:05 AM.

Dave announced that he had received numerous emails from members unable to attend due to the snow and that several other members were out of town for the weekend. There was snow on the ground at Lou LaBonte's as the meeting started.

Dave explained problems with audio-visual equipment were being dealt with and the Speaker would be able to start as soon as things were fixed.

Barry Hopkins led Pledge.

2. REPORTS

- a. President Gilliard reported on Exec. Committee Mtg, including decision to obtain a booth at the Gold Country Fair for recruitment/genealogy in September. Booths cost approx. \$300-\$350 and wifi is available.
Pres. Gilliard reported that Dale Ross has agreed to serve as 2nd VP. A motion was made by Smitty Virgil and seconded by Ernie McPherson to elect Dale. It passed unanimously.

- b. 1st VP -- nothing to report

- c. 2nd VP -- nothing to report
- d. Past Pres. Secretary, Treasurer - no reports
- e. Registrar - no current applications pending
- f. Color Guard - no events scheduled

3. Other Reports

- a. J.R.O.T.C. - Mike Holmes reported that Rocklin presentation was completed and Lake Tahoe presentation was coming up soon, as was Florin
- b. Poster Contest - Dave Gilliard reported that the initial presentations were finished and that the groups had presented to 801 students in 26 classrooms in 9 schools. Gilliard reported that the final school was a new school for the Chapter - Lincoln Crossing - and that he was happy to report that the three teachers at Lincoln Crossing were enthusiastic about teaching American history.
- c. Knight Essay - nothing to report
- d. Eagle Scout - One Eagle Scout packet is being sent to Zack Jensen of Newcastle
- e. Valley Forge Teacher - nothing to report

4. Old Business

Minutes from January as printed in the newsletter were approved. (McPherson made motion, Virgil seconded)

5. New Business

April 19 - Patriot's Day -
The Chapter plans to
display flags and color guard
in downtown auburn on
April 19 from 10 AM to 1
PM.

GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Jack Duncan gave a very
interesting presentation
about America's Atomic test
programs. Duncan helped
build and test America's
atomic arsenal during the
1950, 60s and 70s - the
height of the Cold War.
Jacks explained the bombs
that ended WWII and also
how the Soviets developed
their arsenal. Jack's
presentation included many
slides showing photos of
actual tests. Jack's wife,
Cleona, assisted Jack during
the presentation and she was
on-site with Jack for many of
the tests. Jack was involved
in tests in the Pacific and in
several states, including
Nevada. After numerous questions and
answers, Jack was given a warm round of
applause.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30

Attendance: 7 members and 6 guests

6. Adjournment

a. SAR Recessional





THE Forty-Niner

Newsletter of the Gold Country Chapter
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
PO Box 408 • Meadow Vista, CA 95722-0408



FIRST CLASS
Address Correction Requested



Twelve Bridges School



Artifacts used in school presentations