



Volume 11, Issue 3

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April 2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT
DAVID GILLIARD



Welcome to our April Newsletter.

Our Annual Americanism Poster Contest has concluded. We recently judged 353 posters submitted by 5th graders in our area and chose our Classroom, School and Chapter winners. I want to thank everyone who took part in the judging March 12 and March 19.

Two of Gold Country's current members, Keith Bigbee and Ron Barker, are running for Officer positions with the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Keith is a candidate for Executive Vice-President and Ron is a candidate for Secretary. Both are dedicated patriots. They have and deserve the enthusiastic support of our Chapter. The elections will be held at the Spring CASSAR Meeting in Irvine, Orange County, on April 8-9. Please let me know if you are planning to attend.

Our Guest Speaker on April 16 at our Regular Meeting will be Donald E. Wilson, a US Army veteran, local school board member and an expert on the role Scot Americans, and their Celtic traditions of liberty, played in the American Revolution. I think you will find his presentation most interesting.

On April 19 our Chapter will mark Patriots Day – the anniversary of the first battles of the Revolutionary War. We will be displaying our Revolutionary War flags and answering questions from the public from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Central Square in Auburn (corner of High and Lincoln streets). If you are a member of the Color Guard, or just want to join us to mark this over-looked holiday, please contact me or Dale Ross. I am hoping to see as many of you as possible come out to help us highlight this important date in U.S. history.

DAR members and local veterans are being invited as well.

In liberty and service,

Dave Gilliard

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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

Webmaster

Gregory Hill
(916) 844-5136
greg@gbasacramento.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

National

www.sar.org
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

Chapter

Patriots Day April 19, 2011
Auburn

June 18, 2011

Cub Scout Day Camp
Nevada City

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, April 16th 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 May edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, April 27, 2011.**

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The American Revolution Month-by-Month

April 1781

North Carolina

Moving Towards Final Victory

By Andrew Jackson Stough, III

Edited by Ron Barker



The American Revolution – Month by Month April, 1781

The smoke had hardly cleared at Guilford Courthouse when a torrential rain began, making it impossible to tend all the wounded. The next morning at least 50 men who could have been saved were found dead from exposure. General Nathaniel Greene, forced to retire from the field, was unable to care for anything but his walking casualties. However, the following morning he sent a team of surgeons under a flag of truce to join the British in the care of the wounded. British and American surgeons worked side by side to attend the wounded, regardless of their military affiliation.

Cornwallis remained for two days at the Courthouse. He then moved his and the American wounded to New Gardens, leaving them in the care of the American surgeons. Cornwallis then headed his decimated force toward Wilmington NC, some 200 miles away. He expected to get supplies and help for his walking wounded from loyal Scottish Highlanders. They gave what help they could but it was not enough. He had to push on toward Wilmington, arriving there April 7. Generals O'Hara and Howard, four company grade officers, and several lesser officers carried on horse litters died of their wounds on the way. All were buried along the route of march.

Greene, to show the population that the American Southern Army was still viable despite the battle at the courthouse, sent "Light Horse Harry" Lee and Lt. Col. William Campbell to follow close behind Cornwallis while the main body followed at a distance. On April 6, they turned back toward Camden, South Carolina, where Lee and a company of Maryland Continentals joined Francis Marion with instructions to prevent supplies and reinforcements from reaching Camden.

Cornwallis, secure at Wilmington, reconstituted his army and proceeded with his troops toward Virginia to join Benedict Arnold and take command of all British forces in Virginia. Cornwallis still believed that control of Virginia would isolate the northern and southern patriot forces from each other. He believed that with the colonies' two halves divided, the colonies and their armies would wither on the vine and return to control of the Crown.

On April 17, Greene was encamped at Lynch's Creek. His Virginia and North Carolina Militia had left to return home, leaving only 1,500 Continentals to subdue the 8,000 British and Loyalist troops in South Carolina and Georgia. Until the battle at the Courthouse, Greene had used guerilla tactics but now decided to make frontal attacks against the isolated British forts and outposts strung out through the Carolinas and Georgia. In the coming battles and even without militia, Greene was confident that he could count on the steadfastness of his Continentals, particularly those from Maryland and Delaware, to bring victory. To round out his plans, he asked the irregulars who had fought so well to coordinate their actions with him to drive the British from the South. General Thomas Sumter agreed to contain the British at Camden. Pickens' militia were to harass

Augusta, GA while Francis Marion, supported by Lee's cavalry, was to prevent communications between Charleston and Camden and Ninety-Six near Camden.

Lord Francis Rawdon, a seasoned veteran of the American War, was named to succeed Cornwallis in command of all British forces in South Carolina. Learning of Sumter's harassing of Camden he set out to reinforce that garrison. On April 21 Greene was informed that Rawdon was nearing Camden with 500 men to reinforce the garrison and bring it to 1,500 men. When Rawdon arrived he found that Sumter was still harassing Camden from the west, so Rawdon sent 500 men to cope with Sumter, reducing his garrison to the original 1,000. Greene had moved to Hobkirk's Hill about 2 miles north of Camden, further threatening the garrison at Camden. On April 25, Rawdon, miscalculating Greene's ability after the courthouse battle, challenged Greene. Numerically and position wise the odds were in Greene's favor. At first the battle went well for the Americans as they charged the enemy's center while the wings were enveloping the British. Then 3 of the Maryland companies became disorganized. For some unknown reason Maryland Continental Colonel John Gunby pulled back, not only the three companies but his entire regiment, to reform, leaving a gaping hole in the center, causing the 1st Virginia and 2nd Maryland to falter. Rawdon took advantage of the situation and immediately poured all of his troops, including reserves, into the void. The now totally disorganized Marylanders fell back in disorder. Greene could see the danger of losing not only the battle but possibly the army as well. The battle had turned from victory almost within his grasp to a near rout. Greene immediately called for a retreat and saved his army. Gunby's action in the battle resulted in a Board of Inquiry which found him responsible for loss of the battle.

Rawdon had his victory but once more the price in casualties was too high. Tarleton reported: 38 killed including an officer; 220 wounded including 13 officers. American losses reported: 18 men killed including 1 officer; 108 men and 7 officers wounded; 138 men missing. Having left the field to Rawdon, Greene rested a few days then followed Rawdon who had abandoned Camden and was marching back to Charleston. Several days later Greene gave up the chase to find a more lucrative target at Ninety-Six also near Camden. Greene was disappointed but not dismayed at this failure. He assured Steuben that Hobkirk's Hill would not change his overall plans, that he would go forward from that point. This was the occasion where Greene made his famous statement to the French minister La Luzerne ("We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again. . .")

Despite the loss at Hobkirk's Hill, the Americans were winning in the South. Marion, with Lee's Legion, captured Fort Watson in eastern South Carolina along the British supply route. The patriots constructed a 30-foot tall tower that allowed their men to pick off anyone within the fort, making the fort's position untenable and leading to its surrender. Next Greene sent them to capture Fort Monroe, a fortified brick and stone structure with a wooden roof. Using Indian tactics, they set fire to the roof with flaming arrows leading to its surrender.

With Camden cut off from any supply or reinforcement and Carolina virtually in revolt, Rawdon abandoned Camden and fell back to Charleston. The Southern Army moved swiftly to take advantage of the abandonment of Camden and begin a slow but sure reduction of the British and Tory forces. Eventually only Charleston and Savannah would remain in British hands.

April 18, Arnold attacked Petersburg, VA, and without any effective resistance overwhelmed the town, burning tons of tobacco and four ships at the docks but sparing the town. Arnold, with little or no opposition, continued his marauding through Virginia. His next victim was a fleet of American naval vessels anchored in the James River about fifteen miles below Richmond. The fleet, totally surprised by Arnold, lost four vessels to his shore batteries. The remainder were set afire and abandoned by their crews.

Washington was still serving in his dual roles of a field commander and Commander in Chief of American forces as he kept watch over Clinton in New York and Arnold in Virginia. Clinton had considered abandoning New York but chose to remain there to watch Washington who was still a potent threat. If Clinton abandoned New York, the Tory troops who remained would have no effective fighting resource against Washington, giving him control of all the states north of Virginia, which would have been a major strategic and psychological victory without a fight.

Washington was trying to kill two birds with one stone – the removal of British troops from

Virginia and the capture of Arnold to return him for court-martial and probably a sentence of death. To accomplish this, Washington dispatched Lafayette to Virginia with 1,200 Continentals from New England and New Jersey, expecting to link up with a French force arriving by ship. Lafayette arrived on April 29 in time to defend Richmond, but the anticipated French troops did not arrive until later.

Meanwhile, Cornwallis departed Wilmington for Virginia on April 25 with less than 1400 men. With Cornwallis in Virginia, Rawdon had returned to Charleston. With British forces fortified in the coastal cities, Greene and the irregulars were loose to reduce the isolated posts manned by small garrisons that would fall like dominoes..

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

BIRTHDAYS			
April		May	June
Mike Cilurso		Ron Barker	John Anderson
Steve Ferguson		Ed Beyer	Bob Clurg
Wayne Ford		Harlan Cleaver	Ernie McPherson
Dave Gilliard		Richard Manifor	
Paul Hatling		Robin Ringwald	
Norm Matson		Steve Rogers	
Tom Murphy			
Jim Rooney			
Aaron Young			



2011 Spring Leadership Meeting
Louisville, KY



Secretary General Larry Magerkurth and wife Barbara



Importance of completing SAR Center for
Advancing America's Heritage Stressed

The new SAR Genealogical Library is now underway. Nestled in Louisville's Cultural District on West Main Street amid the second largest collection of iron-front facade buildings in the nation (second only to SoHo in New York), SAR is converting a historic 1870's era building into a state-of-the-art complex that will house SAR's Genealogical Library, Museum Gallery, Headquarters, and Center for Advancing America's Heritage. When completed, this antebellum building overlooking the majestic Ohio River will be transformed into America's premier facility on the Revolutionary War.



New SAR Library is waiting for you to do you Research



SAR Assistant Librarian Rae Ann Sauer is available to help you at the new library



Historian General Charles Lampman and wife Anne



Susan Griffin helping a member with his order



Gold Country 2011 Poster Winners

School	Student	Teacher	School	Student	Teacher
Weimar Hills	Mikelle Boice	Mori	Valley View	Alisa Wong	Koelewyn
	Parker Franscela	Mori		Steele Sebring	Patten
	Ale Hansen	Longtin		Abigail Irby	Koelewyn
	Matt Hayes	Mori	Twelve Bridges		
Stoneridge	Jedrek Pornebo	Kozak		Jack McCormick	Gammelgard
	Anthony Toro	Katsura		Anthony Boisvert	London
				Janina Sahaun	London
	Joanna Daria	Robinson		Olivia Stauffer	Gammelgard
Excelsior	Sienna Lyford	Robinson		Samantha H.	Mandell
	Jasmine Pinon	Robinson		Samuel Salva	Souto
			Cobblestone		
Loomis Grammar	Olivia Grijalva	Brazemore		Blake Steinbach	Kisiosi
				Cydnie LeClaire	Parrot
	Elizabeth Sasko	Dallosta		Ayla Harris	Fetch
	Jacob Thorne	Dallosta		Alliya Smith-Brown	Fetch
	Brady F.	Dallosta		Audry Mayer	Fetch
Lincoln Crossing	Mikey Ernst	Acosta		Nicole Cronin	Parrot
	Ashley Parrott	Acosta			
				Maggie Landon	Sliepens
				Chelsea Hernadez	Sliepens
				Hannah Wilson	Sliepens
				Madeline Roe	Wright

News Release

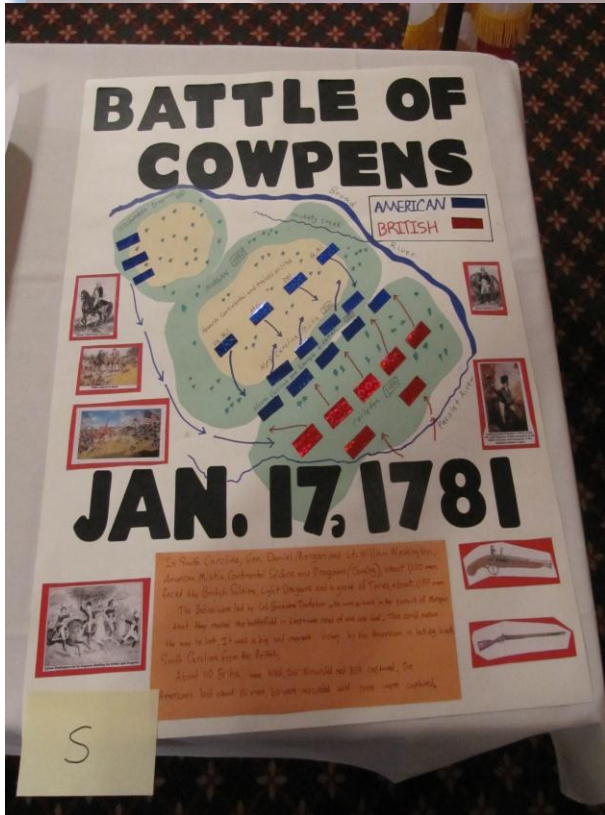
Rocklin 5th Grader Wins 2011 American History Poster Contest

AUBURN, CA – Members of the Gold Country Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution chose a poster submitted by local fifth grade student Blake Steinbach, from Cobblestone Elementary School in Rocklin, as the first place winner in their annual American History Poster Contest.

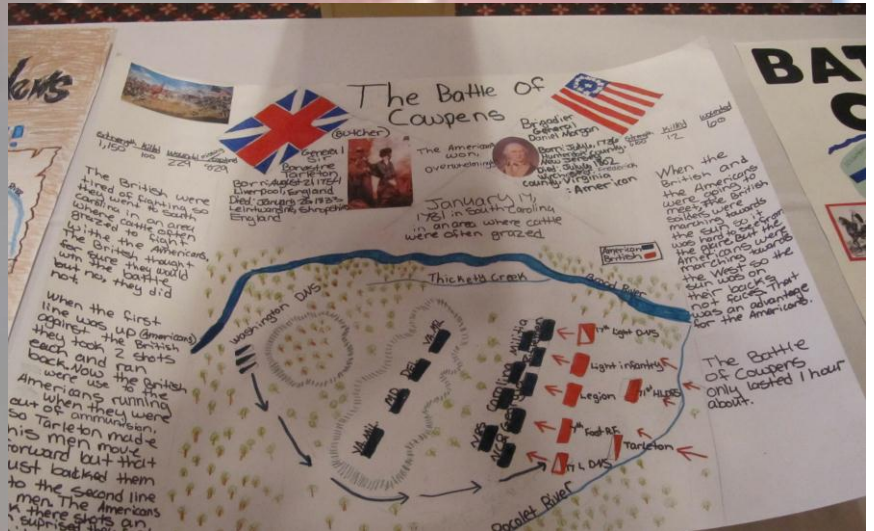
Blake's poster beat out 353 entries submitted from Placer County schools. Maggie Landon from Lincoln Crossing Elementary School in Lincoln placed second, and Anthony Boisvert, from Twelve Bridges Elementary School in Lincoln, placed third. All three students will receive cash awards.

Every year, fifth graders from Placer County and across California and the United States participate in the poster making contest, which is designed to help stimulate interest in American History. A different poster theme relating to the Revolutionary War is highlighted every year. This year's theme was the "Battle of Cowpens."

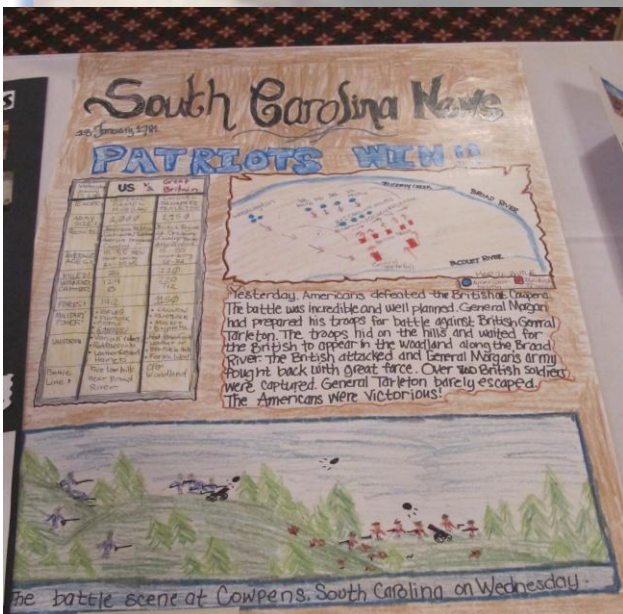
Blake, a student in Ms. Lara Kikosicki's class at Cobblestone, will have his poster entered in statewide judging in Orange County on April 9th. If his poster is chosen best in the state, it will be entered into the national contest against other state winners this summer. The last two national winners have come from Placer County schools. The annual poster contest is one of the several youth programs sponsored by the Gold Country Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Members of the public interested in learning more about the Sons of the American Revolution are invited to visit GoldCountrySAR.com on the web.



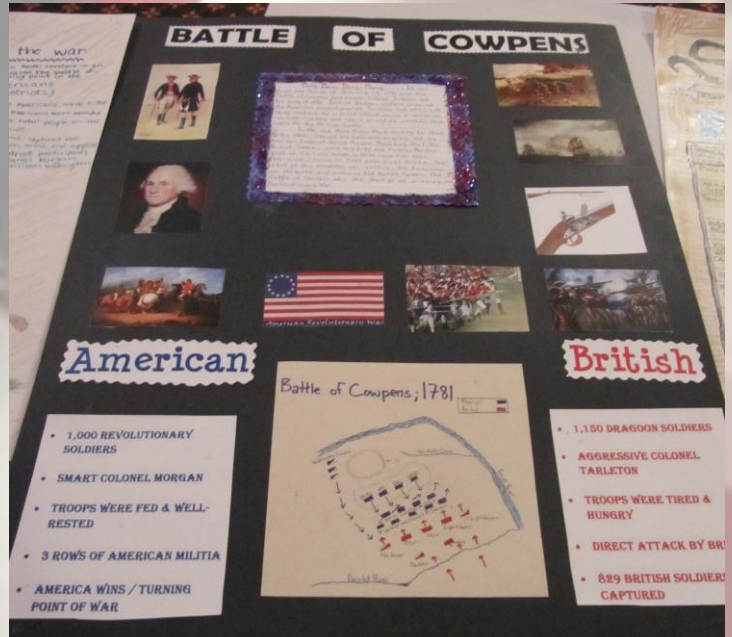
1st Place Blake Steinbach-Cobblestone



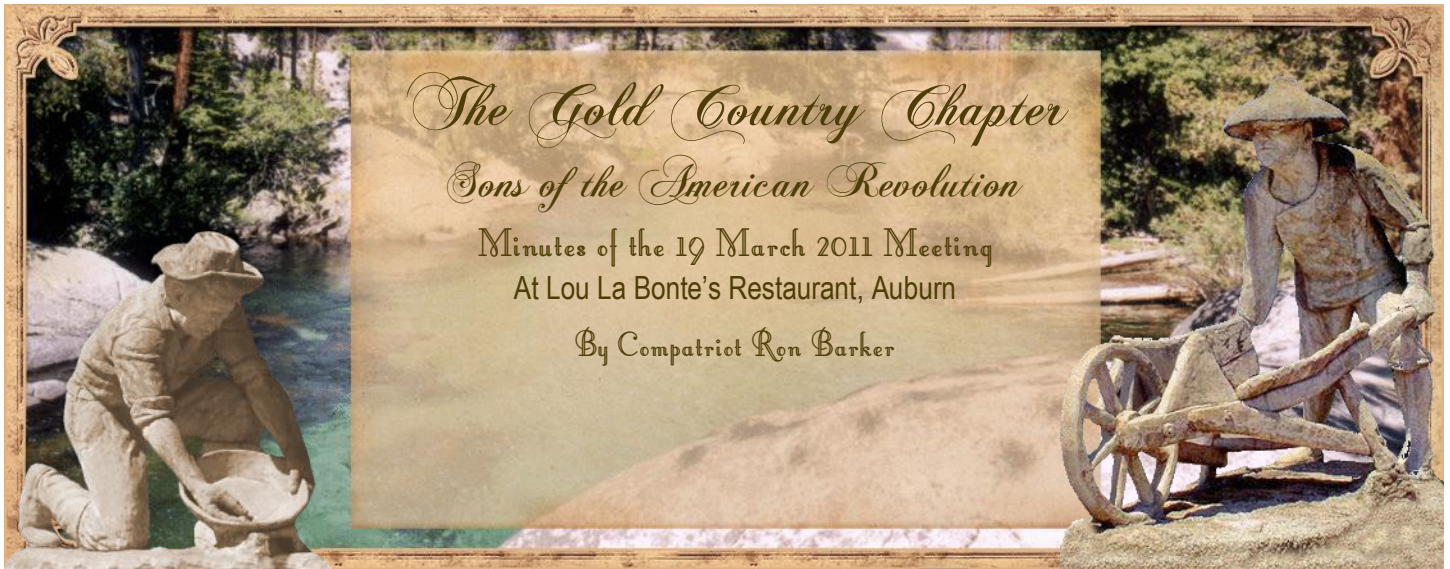
2nd Place Maggie Landon-Lincoln Crossing



3rd Place Anthony Boisvert-Twelve Bridges



4th Place Elizabeth Sasko-Loomis Grammer



1. Opening Ceremonies

Meeting called to order by Pres. Dave Gilliard at 9:00 AM.

The poster judging is going to be our program today.

Barry Hopkins led the invocation, Greg Hill followed with the Pledge of Allegiance and Ron Barker led the SAR pledge.

Attendance: 12 members and 7 guests.

Guests Recognized: President Gilliard recognized Jeff Sylvan, President of the Delta SAR Chapter and DAR Members Coreena Ross and Patricia Hopkins from the Capt. John Oldham Chapter.

Minutes from the February Newsletter approved with changes requested by President Gilliard.

2. REPORTS

a. President Gilliard requested that everyone start judging the posters as we would select our winning poster to submit to the State meeting in Anaheim.

b. 1st VP - Mike Holmes advised that he was meeting with Newcastle elementary school soon about the Valley Forge Teacher Program.

c. 2nd VP - nothing to report

d. Past Pres. Secretary, Treasurer - No income or expenses last thirty days.

e. Registrar - no current applications pending

f. Color Guard - State Meeting Anaheim on Friday, April 8th and Saturday, April 9th. Patriots Day, April 19th in Auburn.

3. Other Reports

a. J.R.O.T.C. - No new update.

b. Poster Contest - Dave Gilliard reported we received 353 posters from 9 schools and 24 classrooms. Preliminary judging was April 12 in the Rose Room. Thank you to Councilman Holmes for arranging for that location.

c. Knight Essay - nothing to report

d. Eagle Scout - No new report.

e. Past President Keith Bigbee reported that Past First Lady Cyndy has been accepted to Grad School so Limited Availability is expected from this past lady.

4. Old Business

a. Patriot Day - April 19 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Central Square in Auburn (corner of High and Lincoln streets). Mike Holmes in going to inquire about getting the local honor guard for the event.

5. New Business

a. State Spring Meeting in Irvine.

b. Past President, Keith Bigbee, advised that The Gold Country Chapter will be hosting the State Meeting in April, 2012, when he becomes State President.

c. Poster Winner were announced and listed in this newsletter.

6. Adjournment

Keith Bigbee led the SAR Recessional and President Gilliard gave the benediction.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15.





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



1

5th Place Ayla Harris-Cobblestone

6th Place Jack McCormick-Twelve Bridges

