



Volume 11, Issue 9

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September 2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT
DAVID GILLIARD



Dear Gold Country SAR Members, Associates and Friends,

I hope everyone will be able to attend our October 15th meeting at Lou LaBonte's. We have a very special speaker travelling over 150 miles to join us. His name is Arkady Faktorovich and he is a Russian Jewish emigrant who grew up in the Soviet Union and served in the Soviet military. He fled Russia at age 30 and came to America. He will share his stories and unique insights about life in the Soviet Union, and in his adopted country, the United States. This is going to be a very interesting presentation and a perfect time to invite a friend or family member to join us for breakfast and see what the Gold Country SAR is all about.

I want to thank everyone who took part in making September a very eventful month. From the 8th through the 11th, your Chapter operated an information booth at the Gold Country Fair in Auburn. Hundreds of local residents stopped by and picked up information about the Sons of the American Revolution, with at least 15 expressing interest in membership. Smitty Virgil, Ron Barker, Barry Hopkins, Earl Young, Greg Hill, Bruce Choate, Dale Ross and Keith Bigbee all helped man the booth over the course of the Fair and I am grateful to each of them for their service.

The booth also gave us very valuable public exposure. On Friday, September 9th, the Auburn Journal ran a large, front page story about Gold Country member Smitty Virgil and his search for patriot ancestors.

On Sunday the 11th, Gold Country continued with our annual tradition of marching in the Nevada City Constitution Day Parade and a holding picnic afterward. I want to thank Dale and Coreena Ross for again hosting this event.

As we all enjoy the fall weather and make preparations for the Holidays, let's keep in mind the significance of the month of October in our nation's history. On October 19, 1781, as a British band played the song "The World Turned Upside Down," 7,000 British and German troops surrendered to the American and French Armies, under the command of General George Washington. Smaller battles and skirmishes would continue until 1783, when the Treaty of Paris was signed, but for all practical purposes, the outcome of the American Revolution was decided at Yorktown on that October day in 1781.

Dave Gilliard

P.S. If you have not visited our new website, please do so at
www.GoldCountrySAR.com.

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The California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

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Calendar of Events

National

www.sar.org

Sept 30—Oct 1, 2011 - Fall
Leadership Meeting, NSSAR HQ,
Louisville, KY

State

www.CaliforniaSAR.org

Nov 3-6, 2011 – California Society
The 136th Board of Managers Meeting
Town and Country Resort San Diego

Chapter

November 11, 2011
Veteran's Day Parade
Auburn Details to announced

November 19th Meeting
Public Service Awards

December Meeting
Potluck

The next Gold Country Chapter meeting is October 15, 2011 Lou La Bonte's Restaurant

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 Sept edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, Sept 22, 2011.



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The American Revolution Month-by-Month

September 1781

End of Southern Campaign

By Andrew Jackson Stough, III

Edited by Ron Barker



The American Revolution – Month by Month

September, 1781

NEW YORK and Virginia

September began with the forces of Washington and French Lieutenant General Jean-Baptiste Rochambeau reaching Philadelphia September 1, where they received a joyous welcome. The citizens of Philadelphia were impressed by the appearance of the French in their fine uniforms and their soldierly appearance and actions—especially the manners and figure cut by Rochambeau.

The next day, September 2, British commander Sir Henry Clinton learned that Washington and Rochambeau had slipped away from New York. It was obvious to him that they were heading for Yorktown, but by that time it was too late for even the fastest ship to warn Cornwallis to leave Yorktown for the interior, where he could avoid being surrounded.

On September 4, Washington received a letter from General Mortecai Gist informing Washington that the French fleet was in the Chesapeake. On September 5, French Rear Admiral Francois de Grasse debarked 3,000 men to add to Lafayette's force. September 6, the combined armies of Washington and Rochambeau arrived at Head of Elk (now Elkton) Maryland to await transportation to Williamsburg. Ironically, on that same day, Benedict Arnold, who had been recalled to New York, was now in Connecticut looting and burning the port city of New London, CT.

British admirals Thomas Graves and Samuel Hood left New York to intercept French admiral Jacques de Barras, who was sailing from Newport Rhode Island, before he could meet de Grasse at the Chesapeake. They planned to guard the entrance to the Chesapeake to prevent de Grasse from entering. However, upon arrival they found de Grasse in control of the Chesapeake with his troops already debarked. When the British fleet arrived, de Grasse moved out to engage them. The battle began in late afternoon and raged on for several hours until it was obvious that the British could not match the overwhelming superiority of the French fleet. After the battle, Graves and Hood hovered off the coast for several days before returning to New York. The Royal Navy was never again capable of challenging de Grasse, leaving Cornwallis isolated both by land and by sea. Count de Barras arrived uninterrupted on September 9 with additional troops to join Rochambeau.

Beginning September 14, de Grasse began transportation of the French and American forces up the Chesapeake from Head of Elk to Williamsburg, completing the operation on September 24. On September 28, 9000 Americans and 7000 French begin the siege of Yorktown.

SOUTH CAROLINA – Intelligence reports told Greene that British Colonel Alexander Stuart/Stewart was approaching Greene's encampment but was unable to get closer than 16 miles due to high water. Greene moved around the flooding, intending to surprise Stuart. On September 7, the Americans were close to the

British encampment at Eutaw Springs. Here Francis Marion joined the force, as did Andrew Pickens with a group of South Carolina state infantry, and Thomas Sumter with South Carolinians. The force was now recuperated and healthy but it only numbered 2,400 men, and 200 of them were assigned to guard the small supply train. As usual, reinforcements had been promised, and as usual nothing had appeared.

It was now up to the old standbys to face Stuart encamped at Eutaw Springs with 2,000 mixed British and Tories. British regulars were predominant in Stuart's force, but the majority of Tories were deserters from the Continental Army. On the other hand, many of Greene's men were deserters from the British army.

Considering this, Greene said: "At the close of the war, we fought the enemy with British soldiers; and they fought us with those of America." Ward states "[p]erhaps in no other battle of the war were the opposing forces so fairly matched." Hessians in particular are known to have deserted in fairly large numbers and settled in the United States. Were these the deserters who made up so much of Greene's army? I am sure that the irregulars of Sumter, Pickens, and Marion were all Americans and, primarily, Americans by birth.

Believing that Greene was unable to move due to flooding, Stuart felt secure encamped in a well-fortified position; an 8-acre palisaded enclosure with water from a creek and a stoutly built brick house. He lacked information concerning the location of the American army until September 8, when two North Carolina deserters appeared at 6 o'clock and warned him of Greene's advancing army. He did not believe their report, but sent a large party of foot and horse to check their story. This group was surprised by Greene's troops and partially destroyed. Its remnants fled to their base at Eutaw Springs and warned Stuart of the advancing Americans. Although they preferred the European order of battle with two armies drawn up in an open field, Cornwallis, Rawdon, and Stuart had learned to incorporate American tactics in their battle plans. With this in mind Stuart formed his main line of battle in the open across Charleston Road but modified the open formation to include a concealed force off the road in a stand of black jack trees. This in itself was one of the factors that saved him from defeat. As the battle waxed hot and heavy the men in the trees did untold damage to the Americans, including destroying most of Colonel William Washington's cavalry and capturing Washington when in desperation he charged the woods.

Many of the British were forced back through their camp and ran pell mell down the road towards Charleston. American victory seemed inevitable until the attacking force discovered the British supply train and turned their attention to plunder and consumption of rum, instead of continuing to push the British on down the road. Stuart, alert to the turn of events and the disorganization of the American line, rallied and reformed his troops to charge the now disorganized Americans. While this involved only a small number of troops, it was sufficient to allow Stuart to save the day. It is possible that Greene could have won the day by throwing in all of his reserves. His philosophy had always been to win. However, short of winning he would inflict as much punishment as possible on the enemy but never gamble with his entire army. If victory were not possible, his army must be saved to fight another day, and so it was at Eutaw Springs. American casualties were heavy. About 25% of Greene's men had been killed or wounded (522 men wounded or killed & 8 missing). Stuart's losses were even greater, almost 40% of his force (866 dead or wounded & 430 missing.) Both sides claimed victory but it was more nearly a draw. After three hours fighting in the summer heat, both sides were exhausted. The following day Greene planned to attack Stuart again as he retreated toward Charleston. Greene abandoned this plan when reinforcements arrived for Stuart. This was the last great battle in the South. Britain was now confined to the areas around Charleston and Savannah.

Greene, without British or Tory Resistance, transitioned into a political role, that of restoring law and order by the re-establishment of legislatures and civilian enforcement of law, backed up by Greene and his army.

The siege of Yorktown began September 28. The surrender at Yorktown in October 1781 signaled the end of major battles in the War for American Independence. October 1781 will also be the final chapter of this monthly letter "The American Revolution – Month by Month."

References: Schlessinger's "Almanac of American History"; Wards "The War of the Revolution"; Lancaster's "The American Revolution"; Higginbotham's "The War of American Independence"; Ency Brittanica.

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Member News

Volunteers are needed to help with Genealogical research for prospective members. We are getting leads from our chapter website and also individuals inquiring about SAR who have seen the Ancestry.com release of the pre-1970 SAR applications.



Pedestrian Bridge Between Marriott and Embassy Suites at National Congress Winston-Salem, NC





NSSAR Merchandising is at the National Congress



Reception hosted by North Carolina Host Society



CASSAR Meeting to discuss National Congress



Presidential Review of Color Guard



Memorial Service on Sunday

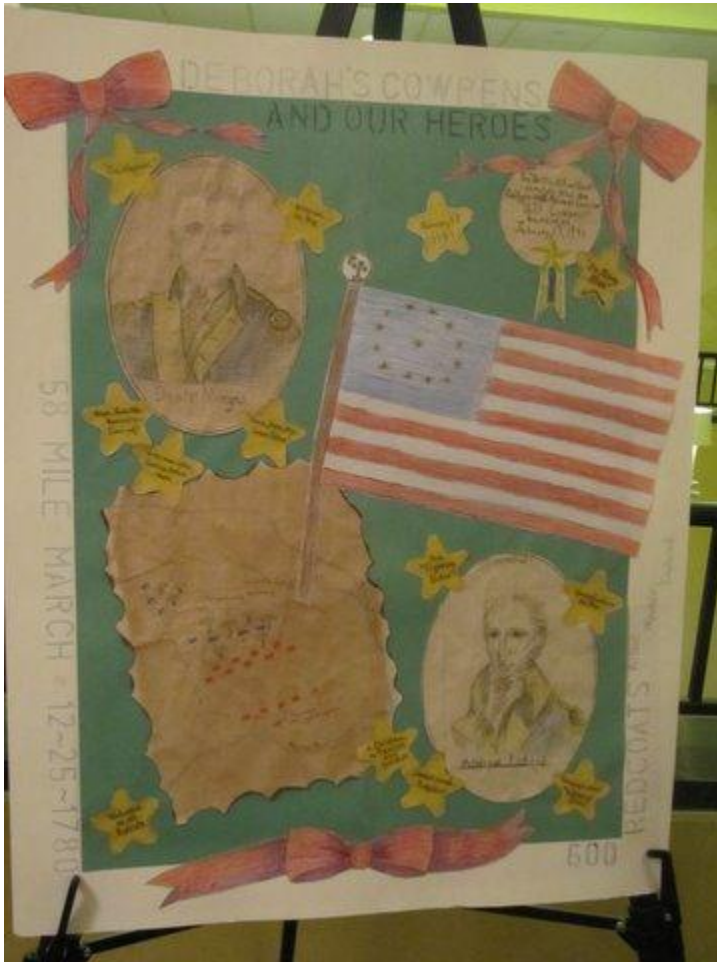


CASSAR Color Guard at memorial Service

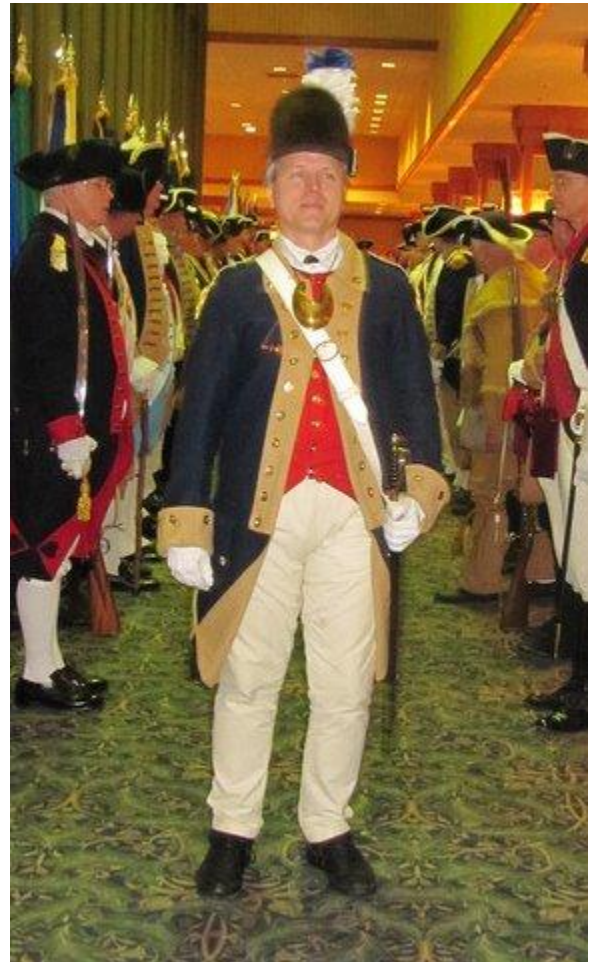


Youth Awards Luncheon on Monday





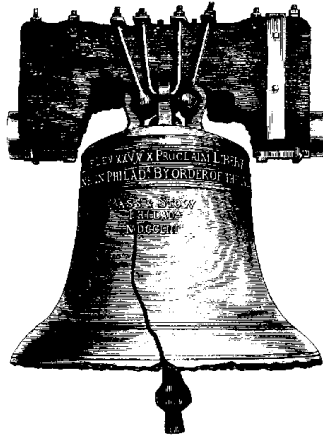
First Place Poster of Cowpens



Color Guard Commander Joe Dooley transfers Command



Wednesday Evening Banquet at Congress



Ron Barker with Ladies at 2011 National Congress

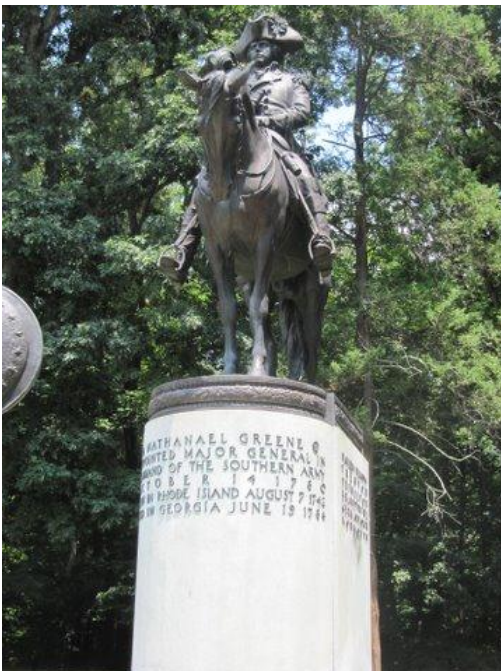
CHAPTER NEWS

November is the month where we traditionally elect new officers. We need to elect officers for 2012-2013. If you currently hold an office and are willing to continue in the same role, or if you want to try something different, please let President Dave Gilliard know. His email is dgilliard@ncbb.net and his phone is 916-663-9605. And if you are not currently an officeholder but wish to become one, please let me know. It is the intention of the Executive Committee to present a slate to the membership at the November meeting, if at all possible.

Gold Country is a very active SAR Chapter and our success depends on the generosity of our members with their time and efforts. If you can serve, now is the time to step forward. Thank you!



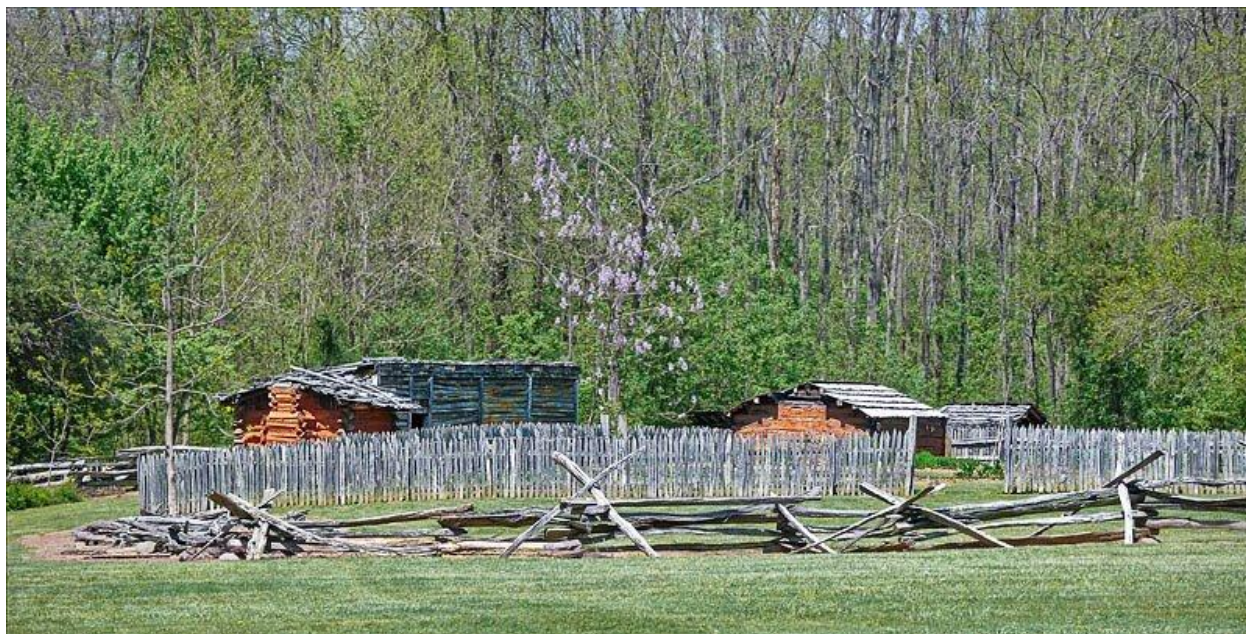
CASSAR Members and Ladies at 2011 National Congress



Statue of Nathanael Greene at Guilford's Court House



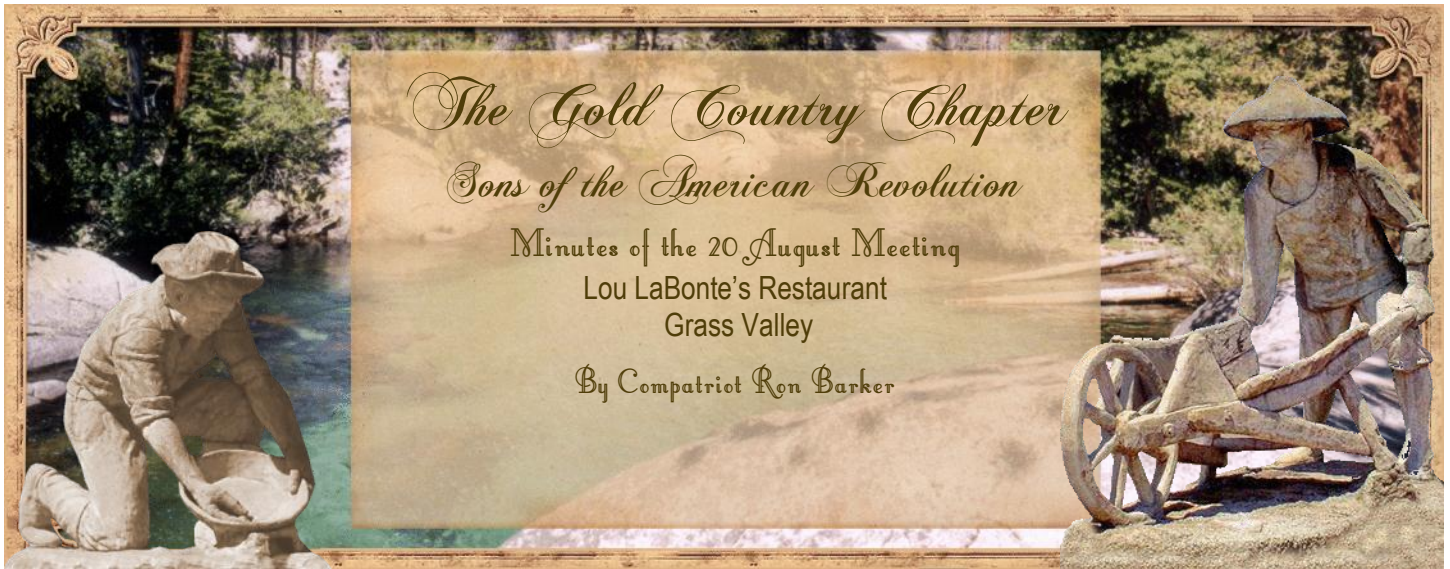
Found on Guilford's Court House Battlefield



Colonial Stockade at Historic Beathabara Park, Bethabara Winston-Salem



Earl Young and Ron Barker at Gold County Booth Sept 9 recruiting SAR members



1. Meeting called to order by Pres. David Gilliard at 9:08 AM.

President David Gilliard led the invocation, Bruce Choate followed with the Pledge of Allegiance and Keith Bigbee led the SAR pledge.

Attendance: 14 members and 8 guests.

Guests Recognized: President Gilliard recognized new Gold Country members Jim, Kevin and Timothy Webb and DAR Members Armida Manifor from the Capt. John Oldham Chapter and Winona Virgil from the Emigrant Trail Chapter.

President Gilliard then recognized new members State Senator Ted Gains and his son Teddy.

Speakers: Ron and Conni Barker

This was a report and the 2011 National Congress in Winston-Salem North Carolina and "a search for ancestors and finding recorded documents.

California member Larry Magerkurth elected as new President General of the Sons of the American Revolution.

On Sunday night at the National Congress, members can observe the Rumbaugh oration contest and the youth speakers were the best speakers that we had seen in the last five National Congress'. The next National Congress is in Phoenix next year and you should not miss this event.

On Monday, there is a youth luncheon where National winners of the Eagle Scout, JROTC, Knight Essay, and the Rumbaugh Oration contest are announced and they read their essay's or give their talk. Another event you will not to miss. You will really be proud of our youth and future leaders of tomorrow.

Don Lee Shaw is the new Executive Director of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was an educator for 11 years. He worked for twenty years in Louisville area as executive officer for the Girl and Boys and other organizations.

After the Congress, we went on the search of Ron's ancestors in North and South Carolina and Georgia. We were in search for wills, marriages, deeds, city and county histories, cemeteries and found family histories in the city libraries that had been submitted by family genealogist. These histories gave us additional leads. Working on six supplements now.

2. REPORTS

President Gilliard advised that we were going to have a recruiting booth at the Gold Country Fair on September 8, 9, 10 and 11th and we needed members to man it for those four days. We are also going to be in the Constitution Day Parade in Nevada City on Sunday, September 11th, at 2 p.m.

There is going to a meeting later in September to discuss the CASSAR Annual Meeting in April 2012 which the Gold Country Chapter will be hosting as our own Keith Bigbee will be CASSAR State President.

With the new prospects we are receiving the chapter needs Genealogy help with these new prospective members. If we do not work with them when they contact us, they might lose their interest.

Treasurer –Bruce Choate- Checking account is \$4527, and our Vanguard account is \$13,981.

Registrar – Applications submitted Cameron John Baxley as a junior member (Grandson of Ron Barker) and Michael Lynn Howell. It is taking 4 to 5 months for application approval.

Color Guard – Sept 11, 2011 Constitution Day parade in Nevada City and Veterans Day Parade in Auburn September 11..

3. Other Reports

None

4. Old Business

None

5. New Business

No new business

6. Adjournment

Keith Bigbee led the SAR Recessional and President Gilliard gave the benediction.
Meeting adjourned at 10:29



Meeting Gold County SAR September 11, 2011 Memorial Park - After Constitution Day Parade

Ron Barker called the meeting to order at 3:41 p.m.

Keith Bigbee led the pledge of allegiance and Dale Ross led the SAR pledge.

Attendance: 6 members and 6 guests.

Next color guard event is Veteran's Day Parade
November 11, 2011 Auburn

Members advised of outstanding speaker in Oct.
Read short bio.

Ron Barker Read the SAR Recessional.
Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.



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

