

The President's Message

By Chapter President Wayne A. Griswold



Today I sit on the back patio pecking at the keyboard while glancing across freshly cut lawns with songbirds singing in the trees. Old Glory proudly waves, fluttering in the breeze as it adorns welcoming thresholds across America. My thoughts drift back to an earlier time of struggle when patriot ancestors stood against tyranny and shouted 'No more!' United in courage and the belief that all men are created equal, that men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, America's first patriots stood against the world's mightiest power and declared independence. They shook their fists in the face of the undefeated giant, the king of England and his oppressive rule. They dared the impossible and persevered until a dream became reality.

Through intervening years hundreds of thousands of men and women have shed their blood in order to preserve this freedom. Today stalwart lovers of freedom continue to shake their fists in the faces of mighty giants and tyrannical rulers. History has taught us that our freedom and its offspring liberties *are not* free. We have learned freedom is worth dying for and in its defense thousands upon thousands have willingly made the ultimate sacrifice. We dare not take this freedom for granted!

This July commemorates the 233rd anniversary of our patriot fathers' Declaration of Independence. In the words of John Adams, "The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch 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 a day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Take every opportunity to teach our children the importance of our country's patriotic events. Celebrate Independence Day with your friends and families. Get together for a picnic or barbecue. Decorate with colors of red, white, and blue in honor of our flag for which so many patriots have died.

The Gold Country Chapter has a collection of 24 historic flags that will be displayed this year in two Independence Day parades. The first will be in Colfax on July 3rd and the second in Auburn on July 4th. Join us at one or both of these events as Gold Country proudly marches, waving the many faces of Old Glory for all to see. Happy Independence Day!

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Calendar of Events

Friday, July 3rd

Independence Day Parade. Meet at 11:15 A.M., St. Dominic's, Colfax.

Saturday, July 4th

Independence Day Parade. Meet at 5:45 P.M., Elm and High St., Auburn.

July 4th-8th

NSSAR 119th Annual Congress, Atlanta, Georgia.

Saturday, July 18th

Regular Meeting, 9:00 A.M., Lou LaBonte's Restaurant, Auburn.

Monday, July 27th

National Korean War Veterans' Armistice Day - Fly the Flag half staff until sunset!

Saturday, August 1st

Air Force Day, Fly the Flag!

Tuesday, August 4th

Coast Guard Day, Fly the Flag!

Saturday, August 15th

V-J Day, Fly the Flag!

Saturday, August 15th

Regular Meeting, 9:00 A.M., Lou LaBonte's Restaurant, Auburn.

Monday, September 7th

Labor Day, Fly the Flag!

Friday, September 11th

Patriot Day, Fly the Flag at half staff!

Sunday, September 13th

Constitution Day Parade, 2:00 P.M., Nevada City.

Potluck & short mtg. following parade.
Note: This will be our regular monthly meeting.

Thursday, September 17th

Constitution Day, Fly the Flag!

Friday, September 18th

POW/MIA Recognition Day - Fly the Flag!

Saturday, September 19th

Historic Flag Program, DAR, 11:00 A.M., Marriott Hotel, Fairfield.

The next Gold Country Chapter meeting is
Saturday, July 18th at 9:00 A.M.

Lou LaBonte's Restaurant, Auburn

The Gold Country Chapter's 2009 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 LaBonte's Restaurant, 13460 Lincoln Way, Auburn, (530) 885-9193, at 9:00AM. See you there!

Visit our Chapter, State and National Websites
GoldCountrySAR.org ♦ CaliforniaSAR.org ♦ SAR.org

The submission deadline for the August edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, July 24, 2009.

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Remembering Their Sacrifices

By Michael G. Lucas

I hope during this Independence Day, among the parades, barbeques, and fireworks, we remember the many Americans who through the years sacrificed for our freedom and independence. As we mark the birth of our nation, let us not forget those whose sacrifices made this occasion possible. We cannot fully appreciate our nation's birth without remembering those who willingly gave, and continue to give, so much for its creation and its ongoing protection.

Sacrifice is not a popular theme today. The last time that sacrifice received much billing was almost 50 years ago in President Kennedy's "ask not..." inaugural speech. In the most recent presidential primary debates, Ron Paul stated, "It's absolutely unnecessary to sacrifice." Mike Huckabee stated, "It's not so much...that people sacrifice, it's doing [things] differently." Mitt Romney stated, "The sacrifice that we need from the American people ... [is] saying 'let the programs that don't work go.'" Politicians obviously prefer to focus on what government can do for voters rather than what they can do for their country. We live in an age where there are promises of more health care at no cost, more services with no tax increases, more defense with no draft, more gain with no pain.

Though sacrifice is an unpopular theme, it would be a mistake to assume that America lacks the stomach for it. As far back as the 1830's, Alexis de Tocqueville, the French political thinker and historian, in his *Democracy in America* recognized that America was a sacrificing nation. He wrote "Every American will sacrifice a portion of his private interests to preserve the rest." Sacrifice is woven into the fabric of our nation. Generations of Americans have been willing to sacrifice and even die for a cause greater than them, whether it was in freeing the colonies from Crown rule, defeating fascism and communism, or destroying terrorism. Spanning our history from the Revolutionary War to the current war on terror, almost three million have been killed or wounded. Because they were willing to pay the price, our enemies have been defeated; Europe is free and at peace; Kuwait is free of Saddam's domination; Afghanistan is free of Taliban rule; and much of the world lives under democracy.



It is important that Americans remember that the tradition of sacrifice started with our Founding Fathers. The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor for the cause of independence. Most of our Founding Fathers were men of means who had much to lose. They knew that signing the Declaration of Independence was actually placing a signature on their own death warrants. As they fully expected, the signers became hunted men; they suffered imprisonment, harassment, loss of property, and death. Many of the signers became broken men, but their unflinching willingness to sacrifice was never broken. Not one of the signers renounced his call for American independence.

The example set by the signers of the Declaration of Independence was followed by our patriot ancestors. These patriots were willing to pay the heavy price in defeating Great Britain and securing our independence. During the darkest days of the Revolutionary War, Thomas Paine had to remind the nation in *The American Crisis* that "tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered" and "what we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value." Because of their willingness to pay the price, some ended up languishing in prison ships; some lost limbs; others lost loved ones; many lost their possessions; and too many lost their lives. The sacrifices crossed all gender, racial, and status lines. Men and women; black and white; free and enslaved; elite and commoner; and soldiers from the lowest to the highest ranks were willing to give their all for the American cause. Here are the stories of a few representatives of these patriots. They include Thomas Nelson of Virginia, a signer of the Declaration of Independence; Levi Hanford, a 17 year old Connecticut militiaman; Sally St. Clair, a Creole girl from South Carolina; Lambert Latham, a slave from Connecticut; and George Washington, the nation's commander-in-chief.

Thomas Nelson bankrolled the military throughout the war. He lent money to soldiers, never expecting repayment. He neglected his own farm to work the fields of men called to service. He stripped his plantation to support the army. During the siege of Yorktown, Lafayette invited Nelson to watch the work of the 2nd Artillery. Lafayette asked Nelson's advice on potential targets in the city. Nelson encouraged them to target the best house where Cornwallis would probably have established his headquarters. Nelson even offered a five guineas prize for the first gunner to strike the house. The house being targeted was Nelson's own home. The war destroyed his health and left him impoverished.

In 1776, Levi Hanford enrolled in his uncle's Connecticut militia company. A year later he was taken prisoner by a Tory raiding party. His experience as a prisoner haunted him the rest of his life. He was imprisoned in a gutted sugar refinery. The conditions were dreadful and mortality rates approached 70%. The stench was so overpowering that it was difficult to breathe. Food was scant, filthy, and worm-infested. Conditions worsened when he was transferred to a prison ship. He was crammed below deck, left to starve and die from disease. Hanford was near death and at any point might have been freed by enlisting in the King's service but he refused. Fortunately Hanford survived the 13 months of captivity and was part of a prisoner exchange. Levi Hanford went home, rejoined his old unit, and resumed his fight for America's independence.


Sally St. Clair so much wanted to fight for her country that she disguised herself as a man and joined a South Carolina regiment. She was killed in the Battle of Savannah, where her gender was finally discovered.

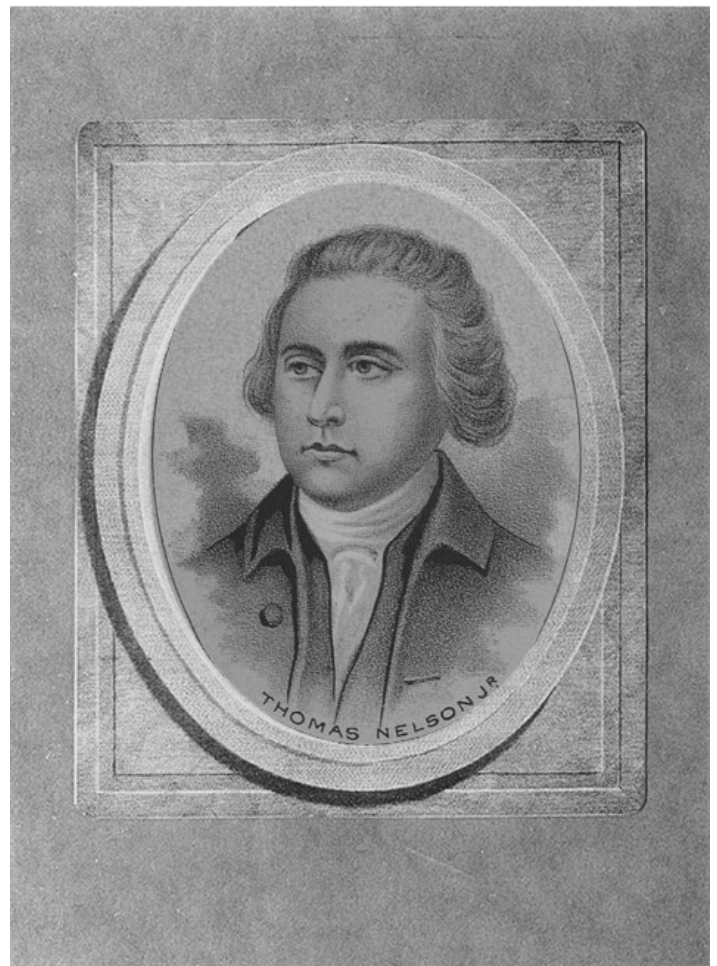
Lambert Latham, a slave at Fort Griswold was part of the effort attempting to stop British raiders. Latham was wounded in his hand but continued to fire at the enemy. The fort's commander, Lieutenant Colonel Ledyard was forced to surrender. Ledyard handed over his sword to a British officer, who took it and stabbed him. Latham was so enraged that he stabbed the British officer with his bayonet. Latham was immediately killed in defense of his commander.

In April 1781 the British warship, HMS *Savage*, sailed up the Potomac and anchored at Mount Vernon. Captain Thomas Graves raided riverfront plantations and destroyed those whose owners refused to provide him supplies. Graves also encouraged slaves to run away and join the British cause. At Mount Vernon, Graves demanded that Lund Washington provide them a large supply of provisions. (Lund was General Washington's cousin and caretaker during the war.) Lund was under orders not to aid the enemy. However, under threat of attack, he capitulated and provided supplies to the British. Seventeen of Washington's slaves boarded the ship. When General Washington was informed, he was furious. He wrote Lund, "It would have been a less painful circumstance to me to have heard, that...they had burnt my

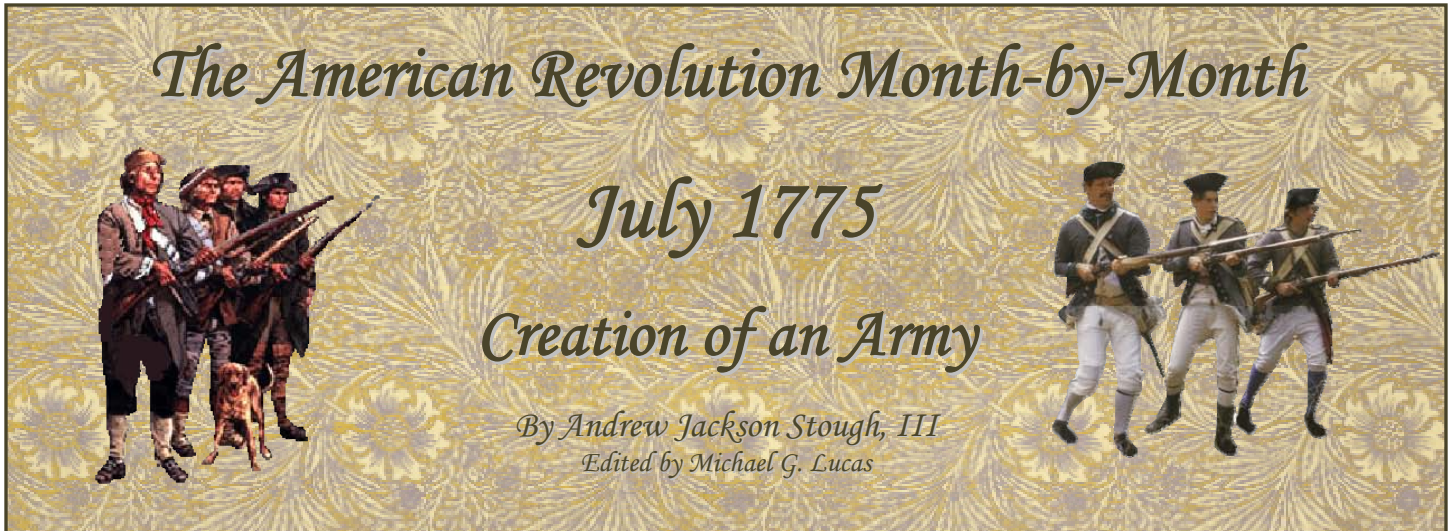
Houses, and laid the Plantation in ruins...The loss of all my Negroes, and in the destruction of my Houses...I am prepared for the event." Rather than aid the enemy, George Washington would have preferred the destruction of his most prized possession, his beloved Mount Vernon.

The freedom our nation enjoys today came as a gift from those patriots who triumphed with their selfless determination. Thomas Paine wrote "These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman." Let us make this Independence Day a tribute to those brave and selfless patriots who have given us our freedom and independence and deserve our "love and thanks".

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Thomas Nelson, Jr. (December 26, 1738–January 4, 1789), was an American planter, soldier, and statesman from Yorktown, Virginia. He represented Virginia in the Continental Congress and was its governor in 1781.



Let us regress for a few minutes and fill in some important details that were not included in previous articles.

The loosely assembled troops around Boston, now called the New England Army, were responsible only to their own state for leadership and supply. Temporary leadership was provided by the acceptance of General Artemas Ward by the onsite generals as their leader. What was needed was a central authority to direct, lead and supply the needs of what now was an army surrounding Boston.

Congress now found itself in the situation of taking responsibility for the army around Boston, which it did formally on June 14, 1775, by creating the Continental Army based upon the same principles as the British Army. From this army evolved the present day United States Army with a birth date of June 14, 1775.

The creation of an army required a leader directed by and responsible to Congress rather than to the individual colonies



General Richard Montgomery


or states as they now saw themselves. On June 15, 1775, the Congress selected a commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. The appointment process was stormy at first as each state wanted one of its own generals appointed. Compromising, they chose Colonel George Washington of the Virginia Militia and a member of the Continental Congress to be the first commander in chief of the newly created army.

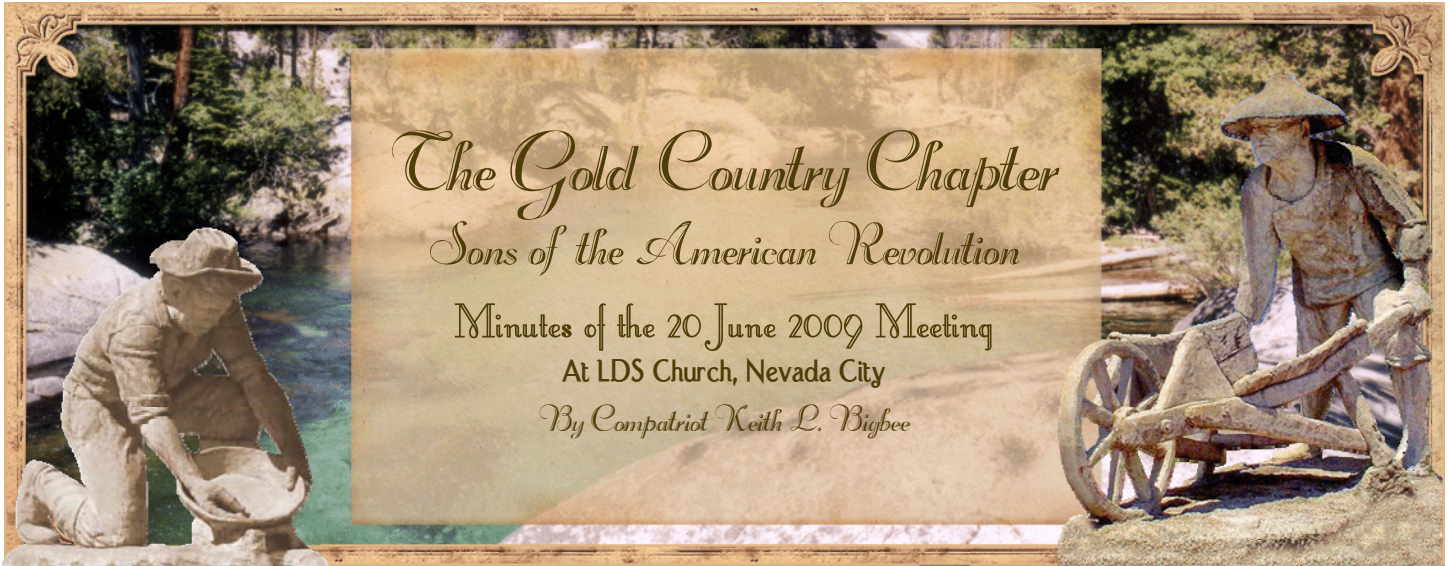
Now Congress had an army, but only on paper. The troops around Boston were enlisted by their home state with their enlistment expiration date usually December 31st.

Washington now had to build an army from scratch but retained as many as possible from the New England Army. Congress proposed a new end of enlistment date of December 31st, 1776. Neither Congress nor London anticipated a long war. The thinking on both sides was that they were facing a short war, ending no later than December of 1776.

Congress previously had made overtures to Canada to either become the 14th state or a nation divorced from Britain, but it never received a reply. Having settled in their mind the problems of a continental army, Congress turned its attention to eliminating Canada as a British stronghold to the north. They did not want Canada to be used as a base to launch an attack down the lakes to the Hudson River Valley, dividing the colonies into two separate divisions. To this end, they had instructed Major General Philip Schuyler of New York in June of 1775 to raise an army and take possession of Canada, using the approach from the Hudson River Valley to Montreal. The force was to be raised and placed under the command of Brigadier General Richard Montgomery. Along with this northern army, Washington was to send a force under Colonel Benedict Arnold to proceed across Maine, joining Montgomery at Quebec.

Reference: U.S. Army Historical Series-*American Military History*, Volume I.

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President Griswold called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M. at the LDS Church in Nevada City. President Griswold gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance given by Bruce Choate. Richard Manifer led the SAR Pledge.

Attendance: There were nine members and six guests in attendance.

General Business: President Griswold welcomed everyone and thanked them for helping with the Camp Beckworth Cub Scout Day Camp BBQ lunch. The minutes from the May meeting, as published in the newsletter, were approved.

Presentations: Andy Rowe was presented with a Supplemental Certificate and he gave an overview of the arduous process it had been to document this lineage.

Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer Bruce Choate gave a report on the Election Day income to the Chapter. President Griswold went over the budget revisions agreed to by the Executive Committee at their June 2nd meeting. These revisions combined with the election income should allow the Chapter to remain in good shape for the remainder of this year and into next year.

Color Guard: There are several Color Guard activities coming up. Colfax Parade, July 3rd: Participants should gather at 11:15 A.M. at St. Dominic's Catholic Church. Auburn Parade July 4th: Participants should gather at 5:45 P.M. at the Chamber of Commerce building on High Street. The parade starts at 7:00 P.M. The Constitution Day and Veterans Day parades are still in the planning. On June 27th, four chapter members will attend a ceremony in honor of the Los Californianos and the founding of the Presidio of

San Francisco. During this event, the California Society, SAR will present a proclamation to Californianos' descendants honoring Spain's contributions during the American Revolution.

California State Society: President Griswold asked for all interested members to contact him if they would like to serve on the 2010 State Society meeting committee. Gold Country Chapter is hosting this meeting in April of 2010. The hotel arrangements have already been secured. President Griswold passed around a draft registration form; he explained that the fees will not be determined until the committee meets.

Junior Membership Program: Earl Young gave an update on the Junior Membership program. Since it has been difficult to secure feedback via email, he will develop a draft and send it to committee members for their input. Compatriot Young is still hoping to have a sample handbook prepared for the November Managers' Meeting. President Griswold encouraged everyone to respond if they receive emails seeking input, even if the response is a simple note that they have no further comment or suggestions.

New Business: President Griswold reminded everyone that we will be back at Lou LaBonte's for our July 18th meeting.

President Griswold also asked to have the members comment on the agenda structure and elements for future meetings. He noted that meetings should be enjoyable and members should look forward to attending. He is looking for input into different ideas. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Wayne.

Closing: President Griswold gave the Benediction and the meeting adjourned so that members could set up the barbeque for the Cub Scouts and their leaders. ☺

GOLD COUNTRY CHAPTER WORKING WITH THE NEXT GENERATION

One of the purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution is to perpetuate the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefield and in our public institutions. The chapter helps achieve this purpose by taking programs into the classrooms and by working with the Scouts. On June 20th, the chapter served Cub Scouts and their leaders a barbecue lunch at Camp Beckworth Day Camp. 🌀



GOLD COUNTRY CHAPTER IN THE NEWS

Placer County Students Win Poster Contest

Students from Placer County placed first and second in the annual statewide American History Poster Contest sponsored by the Sons of the American Revolution. This year 384 students submitted posters with the theme "Paul Revere's Ride."

Loomis Grammar School student Haily LeBar from Ms. Karen Acosta's fifth grade class was awarded the top prize in the state at judging conducted in Orange County earlier this month. Haily's poster will now be submitted as California's entry into the national poster contest, to be conducted in Atlanta, GA in July.

Weimar Hill School student Amy Bradshaw from Ms. Julie Longtin's fifth grade class was awarded second place over-all in the state.

Placer Sentinel

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Placer County residents received recognition from the Gold Country Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at their Annual Awards Ceremony in Auburn on May 17. Pictured left to right: **Julie Longtin** of Weimar Hills School, Valley Forge Teacher Award; **Tina England** of Applegate, Bronze Good Citizenship Award; **Hailey LeBar** of Loomis Grammar School, Americanism Poster Contest, State winner; **Louis Zirelli** of Auburn, Heroism Medal; **Krysti Johnson** of Colfax, Bronze Good Citizenship Award; **Amy Bradshaw** of Weimar Hills School, Americanism Poster Contest, Chapter Winner; **Officer Scott Alford**, Auburn Police Department, Law Enforcement Commendation Medal award; **Michael Miller** of Colfax, Eagle Scout Scholarship and Knight Essay Contest Award and **Mark Gentry** of Auburn, Bronze Good Citizenship Award. Far right: **Wayne Griswold**, Gold Country SAR President.

WE SAY



The Mayor Reports

by Auburn Mayor Mike Holmes

And, congratulations to Auburn Police Officer Scott Alford who was recently recognized for his outstanding contribution to law enforcement by the Auburn Rotary Club and the Gold Country Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

GOLD COUNTRY CHAPTER ON MEMORIAL DAY

The Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, located in Solano County, approximately 27 miles southwest of Sacramento along I- 80, between Dixon and Vacaville, is the seventh national cemetery built in California and the 124th in the national cemetery system. The land was purchased by the National Cemetery Administration in 2004. The Sacramento Valley National Cemetery opened for burials in 2006, and was formally dedicated on April 22, 2007. The first phase of construction provided for 17,200 full-casket grave sites, 12,000 in-ground vaults, a 3,000-unit columbarium for above-ground placement of cremation urns and 765 sites for in-ground cremated burial. The Department of Veterans Affairs recently awarded more than \$18 million to two Sacramento companies to expand the cemetery. This expansion is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2011. The Gold Country Chapter Honor Guard joined with the Sacramento Chapter in a Memorial Day remembrance of our veterans. They escorted and presented a memorial wreath during the ceremonies. Sacramento Chapter President Jeff Goodwin read a proclamation by NSSAR President-General David Applebee. Thanks to Bill A. Welch, Jeanette Welch, Earl Young, Dale Ross, Yoncie Griswold, and Wayne Griswold for representing our chapter. ☞





JULY BIRTHDAYS

Cheryl Anderson
 Keith Bigbee
 James "Al" Chinn
 Jeanette Choate
 Tina Cilurso
 Brent Cleaver
 Harlen M. Cleaver
 Wayne Griswold
 Yoncie Griswold
 Jennifer Hill
 Paula King
 Jake Lawson
 Todd Lawson
 Stephen Longbotham
 Sean T. Murphy
 Burt Payne
 Susan Ringwald
 Coreena Ross
 Betsy Spitzer
 Jeanette Welch



Genealogist's Report for July 1, 2009

Contributed by Chapter Genealogist Earl L. Young
 eysar@wildblue.net ☎ (530) 346-9536

POTENTIAL MEMBERS						MEMBER SUPPLEMENTALS					
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	NAME	3	4	5	6
Baker, Malcolm E. (Thomas Baker)	X	X	X				Gilliard, David A. (John Hoagland)	X			
Blackburn, Thomas	X	X	X				McClurg, Robert (Isaiah Bowker)	X			
Bohmfolk, Fred (Silas Joy)	X	X	X				McClurg, Robert (Rev. Benjamin Stone)	X			
Davey, Steve	X	X	X				Ross, Dale (Nicolas Bieber)	X			
Gaines, Ted	X	X	X				Rowe, Andrew (Henry Allshouse)	X	X	X	X
Hanley, Kenneth (Clark)	X	X	X				Virgil, Smith (Keziah Mealman)	X			
Hill, James (Andrew Hartsfield)	X	X	X	X			Welch, John D. & William A. (Jeremiah Phillips)	X	X	X	A
Hines, Tony	X	X	X				Welch, John D. & William A. (George Russell)	X	X	X	A
Holland, Steve	X										
Kopp, Aaron & Jerold (James Reed)	X	X	X	X	X						
LaPlante, William J. (Simon Kenton)	X										
Lawson, Michael (William Dawes)	X	X	X	X				JUNIOR MEMBERS			
Lawton, George M.	X	X	X				Manifor, Michael D. (Martin Severance)	X	X	X	
Liedstrand, David	X						Welch, Aaden D. (Josiah Seely)	X	X	X	X
Manifor, B., R., & S. (Martin Severance)	X	X	X	X	X		Young, Matthew J. (James French)	X	X	X	
Manifor, Michael J. (Martin Severance)	X	X	X	X							
Ruth, Rex	X										
Rogers, Michael (Charles Talbot)	X										
White, George (Isaac Tillotson)	X	X	X	X							
(1) Worksheet Sent To Individual (2) Worksheet Returned (3) Application Being Prepared						(4) Application Out for Signature (5) Application Submitted (6) Application Approved				A – Additional Info Required Name within () Rev War Patriot ** Signifies Youth Registrant	



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

JULY'S GUEST SPEAKER

Norm Root, Vice President of the Lincoln Highway Association, California Chapter, will be our guest speaker at the July 18th Gold Country Chapter meeting. Mr. Root is a transportation historian and former bridge engineer for the California Department of Transportation. He will be speaking on the subject of the Lincoln Highway - Sierra Truckee Route.



The Lincoln Highway was America's first coast-to-coast road. It was formally dedicated on October 31, 1913. The Lincoln Highway originally spanned coast-to-coast from Times Square in New York City to Lincoln Park in San Francisco through 13 states: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California. In 1915,

the "Colorado Loop" was removed, and in 1928, realignment relocated the Lincoln Highway through the northern tip of West Virginia. Thus, there are a total of 14 states, 128 counties, and over 500 cities, towns and villages through which the highway passed at some time in its history. Lincoln Highway markers can be seen throughout Auburn and Placer County. Come join us and learn more about our fascinating national and local history. 