



The President's Message

By Chapter President Wayne A. Griswold

Gold Country Chapter's May 17th Community Awards Ceremony was a rousing success! Several area residents were honored with the Sons of the American Revolution's Bronze Good Citizenship medal for outstanding acts of service in the community. Awards were also presented to the chapter's first and second place winners of its Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest. Both of our poster recipients also won first and second in the state competition. Each poster winner took home a combined total of \$200 in cash prizes. In addition to their engraved medals, the following recipients received a beautiful certificate and cash awards as follows: the Eagle Scout Scholarship Award of \$150, the Knight Essay Award of \$150, and the teacher winning the Valley Forge Teacher Project received the chapter award of \$100. The chapter's Valley Forge Teacher also won the state award valued at \$1500. Other recipients included an Auburn police officer that was recognized with the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and another Auburn resident who received the SAR

Heroism Medal. I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to express special appreciation to Cyndy Bigbee, Coreena Ross, Winona Virgil, and Ann Young for providing a beautiful table full of goodies and refreshments. Please see the Minutes for complete details.

The above awards were made possible through your generous support. I want to thank each of you for donating your time and for your financial contributions to the chapter. Without them, these programs would not be possible.

Tuesday, May 19th marked the California Statewide Special Election where 26 members and friends of the chapter volunteered to man four Placer County polling precincts. The contributions of these individuals are greatly appreciated and over the past several years have come to be recognized as the financial backbone of the chapter. It is the funds received through these election precincts, the annual voluntary pledge program, and the \$15 per member annual chapter dues that constitute the chapter's total income for the year. Please express your appreciation to the following individuals the next time you see them: Ed Beyer, Tom Douglas, Shannon Griswold, Wayne Griswold, John Gwynn, Julie Gwynn, Frank Wandell, Keith Bigbee, Cyndy Bigbee, Bill A. Welch, Bill D. Welch, Jeanette Welch, Ron Williams, Bill Anderson, Barry Hopkins, Patricia Hopkins, Robert McClurg, Smith Virgil, Winona Virgil, Kevin Brown, Bruce Choate, Mike Lucas, Richard Shepherd, Ann Young, Earl Young, and Kyle Young.

Finally, as a reminder the June 20th chapter meeting was moved from Lou LaBonte's Restaurant in Auburn to the LDS Church, 615 Hollow Way in Nevada City beginning at 10:00 AM. The chapter will conduct a brief business meeting and then adjourn to prepare a BBQ for 400 Cub Scouts and their adult leaders. Please call Dale Ross at 530-274-1838 if you need additional information. I look forward to seeing you there!

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Calendar of Events

Saturday, June 6th
D-Day - Fly the Flag!

Sunday, June 14th
Flag Day - Fly the Flag!

Wednesday, June 17th
Bunker Hill Day - Fly the Flag!

Saturday, June 20th
Regular Meeting, 10:00 A.M., LDS Church, 615 Hollow Way, Nevada City. *Directions from Auburn: Exit Hwy 49 at Gold Flat Road (Exit 185A) Take a right at the exit and then a quick left onto Hollow Way. The road ends at the church parking lot.*

Sunday, June 21st
Father's Day - Fly the Flag!

Saturday, June 27th
10:30 A.M., SAR Proclamation & Luncheon, San Francisco Presidio.

Friday, July 3rd
Independence Day Parade, Colfax.

Saturday, July 4th
Independence Day, Fly the Flag!

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!

The next Gold Country Chapter meeting is
Saturday, June 20th at 10:00 A.M.
LDS Church, 615 Hollow Way, Nevada City

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 July edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, June 26, 2009.



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CSI: Boston

By Michael G. Lucas

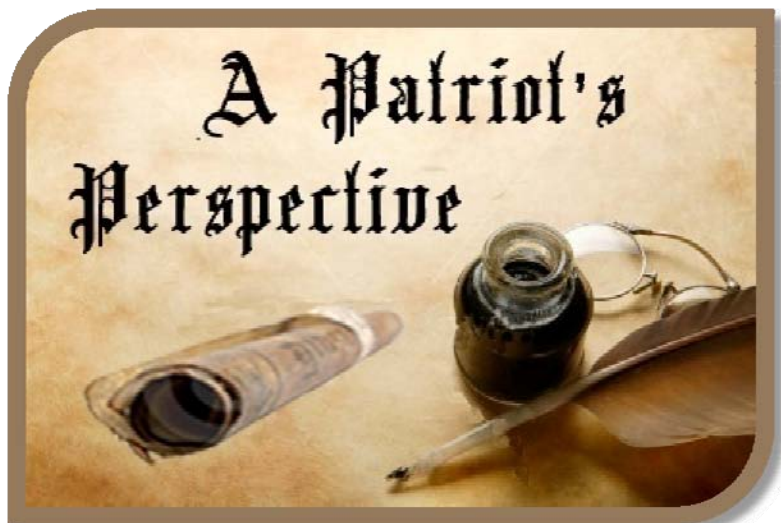


he Crime Scene Investigation television series have become very popular. Jurors have recently become so forensically educated that trial lawyers now have to consider this when presenting their cases. Until recently few of us were very informed about forensic technology, and therefore many people believe that it must be a new field of science. However, post-mortem identification by forensic dentistry actually dates back to the Revolutionary War.

Paul Revere was a dentist between 1768 and 1775. He had already been known as a superb goldsmith, coppersmith, and silversmith. As a dentist, he cleaned teeth and wired in false teeth made from ivory or animal teeth. An advertisement Revere ran on September 19, 1768 in the *Boston Gazette* stated, "Whereas many persons are so unfortunate as to lose their ForeTeeth by Accident, and otherways, to their great Detriment, not only in Looks, but speaking both in Public and Private: This is to inform all such that they may have them replaced with artificial ones, that look as well as Natural, & answers the end of speaking to all Intents, by PAUL REVERE, Goldsmith, near the head of Dr. Clarkes' Wharf, Boston." Several years later, one of his *Boston Gazette* advertisements made even stronger claims: "Paul Revere Takes this Method of returning his most Sincere Thanks to the Gentlemen and Ladies who have employed him in the care of their Teeth and he would now inform them and all others, who are so unfortunate as to lose their Teeth by accident & otherways, that he still continues the Business of a Dentist, and flatters himself that from the Experience he has had in fixing some Hundreds of Teeth, that he can fix them as well as any Surgeon-Dentist who ever came from London." Between late May and early June 1775, one of Paul Revere's patients was patriot leader, Dr. Joseph Warren, who had two artificial teeth wired into his mouth.

Warren was a remarkable American patriot. He published patriotic articles and was active in the Sons of Liberty. He was chairman of the Massachusetts Committee of Correspondence, which kept all the colonies informed on progress of the independence movement. He drafted the Suffolk Resolves, a precursor to the Declaration of Independence. These 19 resolves declared that, although the

A Patriot's Perspective



colonists of Massachusetts were loyal to their king, he loses their loyalty when he takes away their rights. The Resolves declared that the colonists had the right to take up arms to defend themselves. Warren went on to state that anyone arrested on the king's orders would find one of the king's appointees arrested. Along with these proclamations, Warren declared that all illegal laws and taxes should be ignored by patriotic Americans. Never before had Americans declared their independence so forcibly. He was elected president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and was responsible for sending Paul Revere and William Dawes to warn of the impending British raid on Lexington and Concord. Dr. Warren was so fiercely patriotic that he never allowed personal obligations from deterring his revolutionary endeavors. Abigail Adams cared for his three youngest children after the death of his wife. He even left his patients to the care of an assistant while he led a militia in the Battles of Lexington and Concord. During this battle Warren was nearly killed when a musket ball struck his wig. Warren recruited and organized soldiers during the siege of Boston.

Dr. Warren had always been willing to put himself in harm's way for the sake of his country. In February 1770, he had conducted an autopsy on the body of Christopher Seider, who had been killed by a British customs official, Ebenezer Richardson. Seider's death and his large public funeral helped fuel the Boston Massacre eleven days later. Richardson was convicted of murder that spring, but received a royal pardon and a new job within the Customs service, on the grounds that he had acted in self-defense; this pardon became a major American grievance against the British government. Seider's death played a role in precipitating the American Revolution and some historians have called him the first victim of the war. Warren's findings were strongly critical of the British and were reported in his newspaper essay. British officials were so incensed that they placed

Warren on trial for his incendiary writings. A local jury, however, refused to convict him.

On June 14, 1775, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress bestowed upon Dr. Warren the rank of major general but it hadn't taken effect when the Battle of Bunker Hill was fought three days later. Warren showed up as a volunteer soldier. General Israel Putnam and Colonel William Prescott wanted to take orders from Warren but he refused, stating that he wished to learn warfare firsthand from them. Dr. Warren served as a volunteer private. Although actually a major general, he chose to serve at the lowest rank. In the third and final assault, Warren was killed by a musket ball fired into his head.

The British burial detail headed up by British Captain Walter Laurie, in his words, "stuffed the scoundrel with another rebel, into one hole, and there he and his seditious principles may remain." Ten months later Warren's body was exhumed by his brothers. Since Warren had been buried in the same grave with another victim and his body had been stripped of its expensive clothing, forensic dentistry was the only possibility at the time for identifying the body. An April 25, 1776 *New England Chronicle* account stated, "Though the body which our savage enemies scarce privileged with earth enough to hide it from the birds of prey was disfigured, when taken up, yet it was sufficiently known by two artificial teeth which had been set for him a short time before his glorious exit." Paul Revere was called upon to make America's first successful identification of a victim by forensic dentistry. Fortunately Revere was able to confirm that the artificial teeth in the mouth of the unidentified victim were, indeed, those which he had set into Dr. Warren. This identification allowed his remains to be properly interned. His body was moved to Boston's Granary Burying Ground. In 1825 his remains were relocated to St. Paul's Cathedral and later in Boston's Forest Hills Cemetery.

At the time, General Gage reportedly called Warren's death of equal value to the death of 500 men. The British thought they could annihilate Dr. Joseph Warren and his principles, but his memory and his principles survived in the hearts of America's patriots. Dr. Warren's death went on to strengthen the revolutionary movement since it was viewed as such an act of martyrdom. Today there are two statues in Boston honoring him. Through the years, fourteen counties, four cities, one fort, and five ships have been named after him. Joseph Warren's "seditious principles" are still alive today.

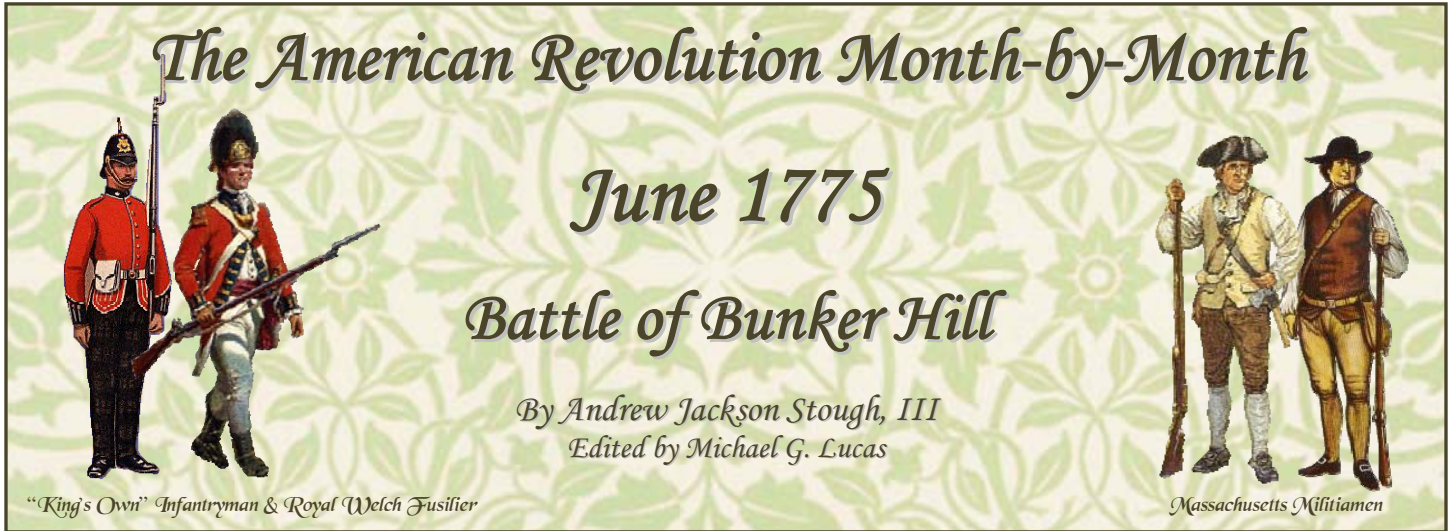
We owe Joseph Warren a debt of gratitude. He encouraged his countrymen to "not tamely submit – appealing to Heaven for the justice of our cause, we determine to die or be free." He also was thinking of us when he reminded them that they were "to decide the important question, on which rest the happiness and liberty of millions yet unborn."



Major General Joseph Warren



Paul Revere



he Battles of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, and the following siege of Boston were catalysts for uniting the colonies towards a common cause. In addition, it had shown them that the British Lion was not always invincible. However, a subsequent lack of activity began to erode the original euphoria gained from Concord and the capture of Fort Ticonderoga.

Ticonderoga had been seen as the Gateway to the North. The fort would now provide a buffer; it would take a strong force to attack the colonies from Canada. While it was a lift to the colonists' morale, it also turned the tenor of the uprising from objection to revolution. The result was a strengthening of resolve on both sides, particularly for the Americans. Prior to Bunker Hill, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress had asked the Continental Congress in Philadelphia to adopt the New England army. There was hope of uniting the thirteen Colonies in the cause being prosecuted in Boston. On June 14th, Congress voted to accept the New England army. This became the genesis for the U.S. Army as we know it today. On the following day, Congress chose George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. On June 23rd he left Philadelphia for New York. He arrived at Cambridge on July 2nd where he assumed command of the army.

In the meantime, British General Sir Thomas Gage had been forced to bring in provisions for the town by sea. Britain ruled the sea, but it was faced with the same problem previously encountered by the Spanish Armada. British ships of war

were unable to cope with the hit and run tactics of the smaller and faster Yankee vessels which harassed and captured British supply vessels. This so angered the Britons that they launched retaliatory sea attacks on New England coastal towns, setting them afire with red hot shot. Such retribution only stiffened the resolve of the New Englanders and offended the other colonies. The result was a growing cohesion of the colonies for a common defense wherever needed.

Reinforcements to the Boston garrison led the colonists to tighten their hold on the city. Moving forward, they fortified two hills, Breed's, the smaller, and Bunker, the larger and tallest. Considered for fortification, but not implemented, was Dorchester Heights which was even closer to the town of Boston.

"Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes"
 --- usually attributed to **General Israel Putnam**

"A few more such victories would have surely put an end to British dominion in America."
 --- **British General Henry Clinton**

Both construction of the new forts and the fortification of the hills irritated the British; they decided to give the defenders a taste of cold British steel. Only vanity must have prevented the British from using their naval superiority to land troops behind the rebel lines, reverse the siege, and advance on the hills from the unfortified side. It can only be conjectured that Gage intended to humiliate the "rude farmers" by subjecting them to the sight of seasoned lines of Redcoats; they advanced inexorably forward with fixed bayonets to oppose the defenders' muskets and fowling pieces. Perhaps Gage thought the sight of colonial troops abandoning their positions and fleeing for their lives would so impress the colonists that they would abandon any thought of resistance, anywhere. If that had been his strategy, it backfired to his dismay.

The attack began on June 17, 1775, on what appeared to be the more vulnerable Breed's Hill. It was a hot and humid day; the attackers were forced first to slog through the low marshlands, then uphill through knee high grass and brush. The advance of the scarlet coated Royal Welch Fusiliers was impressive. They halted several times to allow the land batteries and ships' cannon to deliver a devastating fire on the hill above. They advanced until they were close enough for the colonists to fire; the Americans seized the opportunity and tore great holes in their ranks. Recoiling, they closed ranks and advanced again until another deadly fusillade tore the line to shreds. The Royal Welch Fusiliers were no more.

A second line, the King's Own, advanced in the same ordered fashion and was as summarily dispatched. Two crack regiments had been destroyed and Gage's plan had failed. Not to be denied victory, Gage formed a new plan; within fifteen minutes a regrouped and reinforced British force moved forward. Advancing with the same precision as before, they stopped only to fire. They continued to advance with fixed bayonets and they met the same fate as the previous assaults.

Against the advice of his staff, Gage refused to be denied victory regardless of the cost. He gathered new troops for another assault. The defenders had scarcely been hurt, nor had a Redcoat breached their lines. They were strong of heart and ready to engage the enemy, but there was little hope of holding the ground against another such determined attack. Unfortunately, the Americans were woefully short of powder and ball. Their muskets would not be able to stand against bayonets. Still, with such odds against them, they stood fast.

The final assault was repulsed several times, leaving great piles of the King's men dead and wounded. British regulars regrouped and were able to forge up the hill due to the reduced fire as colonists exhausted their powder and ball. When the powder and ball was exhausted, Britons entered the entrenchments with fixed bayonets. There were no patriot bayonets to meet British bayonets. Still the defenders held their ground using anything available to club the enemy. With support of cannon and musket fire from Bunker Hill, they held off the advancing troops until all hope failed. Then the defenders fell back in fairly good order, leaving a rear guard to cover their retreat. They fought from stone wall to stone wall until the last man was safe from British fire.

More men were killed and wounded in the retreat than during the actual battle. Even the British generals acknowledged that it had not been a flight but a well ordered retreat done with military skill.


Heroes of the battle cannot be completely

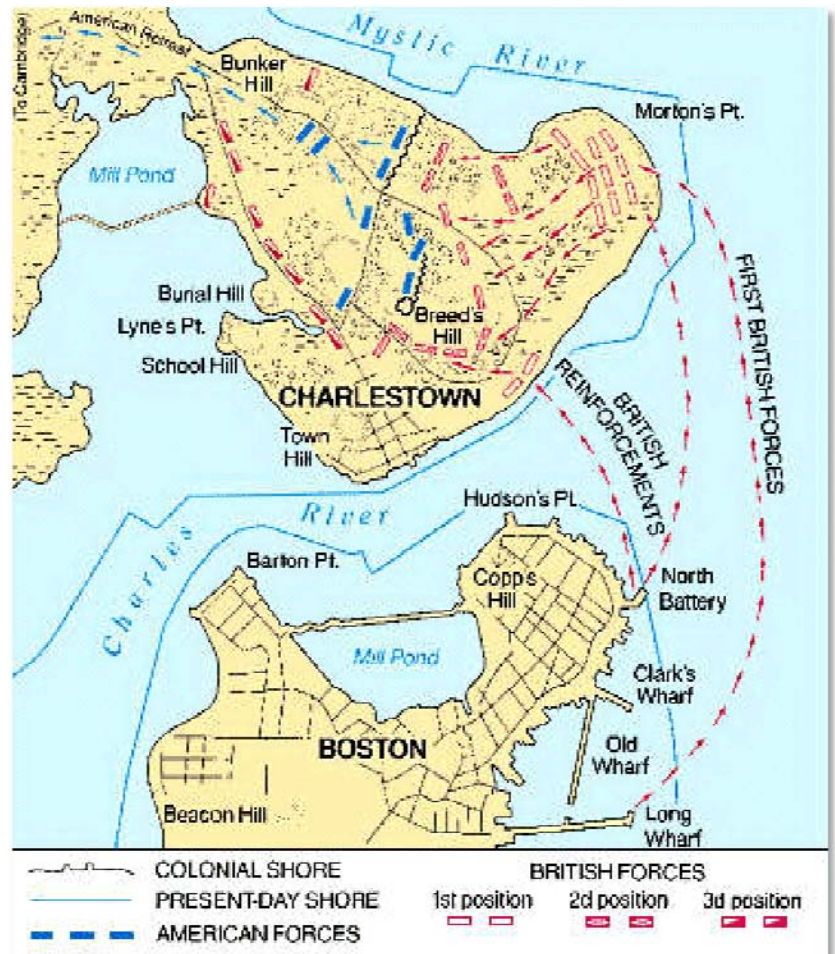
identified or enumerated, but the names of General Israel Putnam, General Seth Pomeroy, Colonel William Prescott, and Doctor Joseph Warren (killed in the retreat) should always be remembered. Farmers had stood fast whereas less determined men would have fled pell-mell against the British Army.

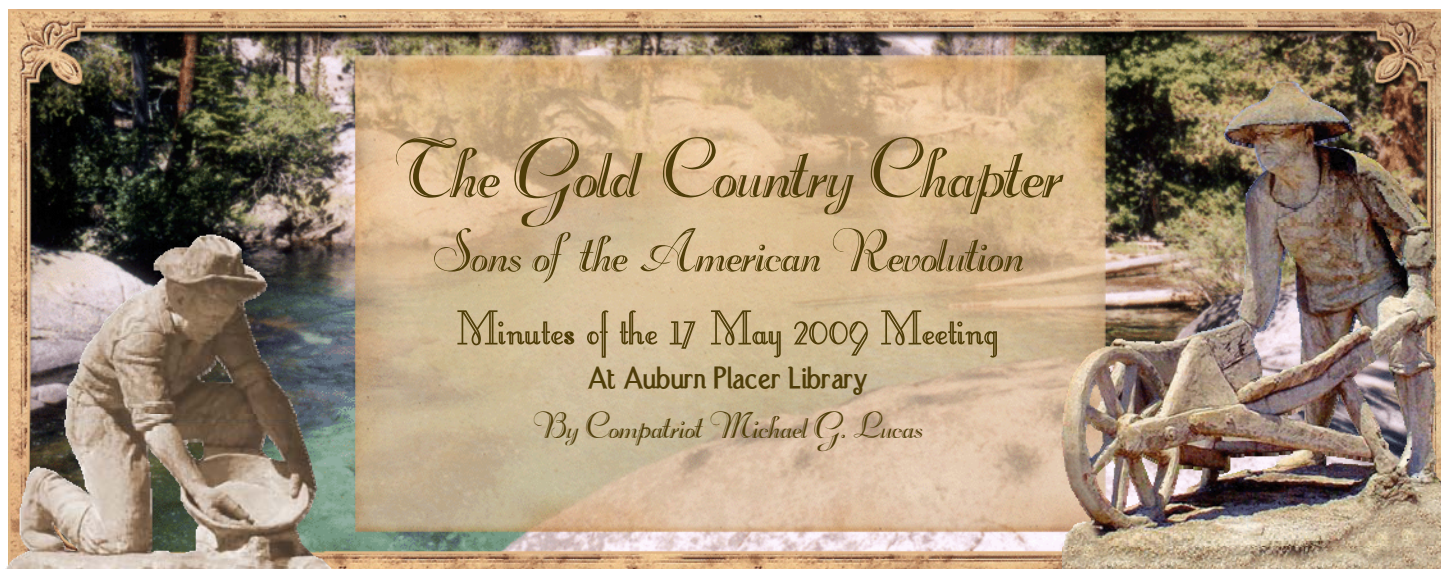
The aftermath of the action was that Europeans no longer saw the colonists as simple farmers but patriots capable of great military exploits and driven by a revolutionary zeal. They recognized that the patriot fight for justice and freedom would continue.

To the Colonial leaders, it confirmed that a Revolution had occurred and that this was "The War of that Revolution." Not only New England but each and every colony was now involved. It gave the Continental Congress authority as a central ruling body. There would now be a more coordinated and devoted prosecution of what had initially begun as a local rebellion but had become a full-fledged war to the death.

References: Christopher Ward's *The War of the Revolution*; National Park Service *The Battle Road*; The Encyclopedia Britannica *The Revolutionary Years*; and above all, the respect for our ancestors gained in Mrs. Collins's Sherborn, Massachusetts 6th grade class.

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, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. 





President President Griswold called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Wayne Griswold led the Pledge of Allegiance. Smith Virgil led the SAR Pledge. Earl Young provided the invocation.

Attendance: Eleven members and forty nine guests attended the meeting.

Guests Recognized: President Griswold recognized Auburn Mayor Mike Holmes, members of the DAR, and the award recipients along with their families and friends.

General Business: President Griswold presented a brief summary of the organization and its purpose. He asked for a motion approving the April meeting minutes as published in the chapter newsletter. Keith Bigbee made the motion, seconded by Earl Young, and passed by the membership. President Griswold discussed the upcoming election and color guard events. He announced an Executive Board Committee meeting on June 2nd at Denny's Restaurant in Auburn. He also reminded the membership of the June meeting at 10:00 AM at the LDS Church in Nevada City followed by a BBQ for over 400 Cub Scouts and their leaders. President Griswold asked for a motion to suspend all chapter business until the next meeting. Smith Virgil made the motion, seconded by Keith Bigbee, and passed by the membership.

Awards Program:

National Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest: State Poster Chairman David Gilliard explained the contest was open to all 5th grade students and this year's chapter winners were picked from 383 poster entries from 24 different classrooms throughout Placer County. David awarded the following winners with their certificates and cash awards: 1st place Chapter & 2nd place State Society certificates with checks totaling \$200.00 to Amy Bradshaw of Weimar Hills Elementary School. 2nd place Chapter & 1st

place State Society certificates with checks totaling \$200.00 to Hailey LeBar of Loomis Grammar School.

Eagle Scout Scholarship: The Eagle Scout Scholarship is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their 19th birthday during the contest year. This year's Chapter winner was Michael Miller of Meadow Vista. Eagle Scout Chairman Dale Ross awarded Michael the SAR Eagle Scout Medal and a check for \$150.00.

Knight Essay Contest: The Knight Essay Contest is designed to give students an opportunity to explore the influence of the Revolutionary War on present day America. It is open to all high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors and provides them opportunities to win scholarships at the chapter, state, and national level. Earl Young announced this year's winner as Michael Miller of Meadow Vista. Knight Essay Chairman Earl Young presented Michael with medal and certificate and a check for \$150.00.

Valley Forge Teacher Award: The Gold Country Chapter strives to identify, recognize, and commend the Outstanding Teachers in our communities. Extraordinary educators at private, public, and parochial institutions who teach our children in the middle or high school setting, will be recognized for actively addressing the history of the American Revolutionary era. Contestants who are selected at the chapter level win a cash prize of \$100 and become eligible at the state level to win a Freedoms Foundation Summer Teacher Graduate Workshop at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Juli Longtin of Weimar was this year's winner of both chapter and state awards.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate: The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was authorized in 1895 and recognizes persons whose achievements are



*Americanism Elementary School
Poster Contest*

L to R: *Amy Bradshaw* was GCC's First Prize Winner and CASSAR's Second Prize Winner. *Hailey LeBar* was GCC's Second Prize Winner and CASSAR's First Prize Winner.



*Eagle Scout Scholarship Award
and Knight Essay Contest*

Michael Miller of Meadow Vista was presented with both the Eagle Scout Scholarship Award and the Knight Essay Contest Award.



*Valley Forge
Teacher Award*

Juli Longtin of Meadow Vista was presented with the Valley Forge Teacher Award.



*Law Enforcement
Commendation Medal*

Officer Scott Alford, Auburn Police Department, was presented with the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.



Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

L to R: *Mark Gentry* of Auburn, *Tina England* of Applegate, and *Krysti Johnson* of Colfax were each presented with the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.



Heroism Medal

Louis Zirelli of Auburn was presented with the Heroism Medal.

noteworthy in their school, community or state. This medal, the ROTC Medals and the Medal for Heroism are the only SAR medals awarded to both adults and/or minors. This year's Medals and Certificates were awarded to three individuals: Krysti Johnson of Colfax, Tina England of Applegate, and Mark Gentry of Meadow Vista. Krysti Johnson organized an entire effort to serve Easter dinner for 70 home-bound seniors. She was involved in the identification of the recipients, the meal planning, transportation, and preparation. Tina England served in meeting the needs of numerous homeless women and their children at Acres of Hope, a faith based support organization in Applegate. Tina provided a balanced approach in meeting needs - spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Mark Gentry donated his time and ability to remodel a bathroom at no cost for Jamie Wadell, who was left a quadriplegic as a result of an accident. Jamie's father was unable to work because of an injury and Jamie's mother had to quit her job to care for her daughter.

Law Enforcement Commendation Medal: The Law Enforcement Commendation Medal is not limited to peace officers and can be awarded to attorneys, judges, prosecutors or legislators who have performed an exceptional act or service beyond that normally expected. Officer Scott Alford of the Auburn Police Department was this year's winner. Officer Alford's efforts helped unite regional DUI enforcements activities, resulting in 2,341 DUI arrests countywide.

Heroism Medal and Certificate: The Medal for heroism recognizes outstanding bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of imminent danger, acts which involve great personal courage and risk to the recipient. It is intended primarily for acts by civilians, but does not exclude police, firemen or SAR members. Louis Zirelli of Auburn was this year's recipient. At great risk to himself, he rescued a drowning victim from a swollen canal.

Closing: In recognition of Armed Forces Day, President Griswold recognized those who have served or have family members who are serving in war time. President Griswold read the following quotation:

"It is the Soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the Soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the Soldier, not the organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the Soldier who salutes the Flag, who serves beneath the flag and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag."

The recessional was led by Bill A. Welch followed by a Benediction given by Earl Young. Guests were invited to have refreshments provided by the Gold Country Ladies Auxiliary. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M. ☞

Gold Country Chapter in the News



April 9, 2009

Weimar Hills students step back in time

Weimar Hills fifth-graders took a step back in time last week when members of the Sons of the American Revolution, Gold Country Chapter, gave a presentation on the American Revolutionary War.

Three members of the local chapter wearing Revolutionary War costumes showed students the various flags and described the weapons used by American settlers.

The highlight of the assembly — for one student, at least — was the announcement of the organization's annual poster contest winner.

Ten schools in Placer County submitted 383 entries depicting the legendary midnight ride of Paul Revere, reported Sons of the American Revolution former President Earl Young. The top prize was awarded to Weimar Hills fifth-grader Amy Bradshaw, whose entry will be judged at the state level. She received a blue ribbon and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

The local chapter of history enthusiasts is 92 members strong.

Their youngest member, John Longtin, is a fifth-grader at Weimar Hills.



Marci Seither/Colfax Record

During an assembly on the American Revolutionary War, Weimar Hills fifth-grader Amy Bradshaw was awarded first place in the Sons of the American Revolution poster contest commemorating the legendary midnight ride of Paul Revere. Gold Country Dressed in Revolutionary War era costumes, Dave Gillard, left, and President Earl Young presented Bradshaw with a blue ribbon and a \$100 savings bond. Her poster will now go on to the state level of competition.



April 15, 2009



All decked out for Patriot's Day



Auburn Mayor Mike Holmes presented a Patriot's Day Proclamation to the Gold Country Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution during Monday evening's city council meeting. Patriot's Day is celebrated on April 19 in honor of those who fought in the first battle of the American Revolution. Pictured left to right are: Earl Young, Dale Ross, Barry Hopkins, Mayor Mike Holmes and president of the chapter Wayne Griswold.



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

MIAP - Honors at Arlington

By Jim Faulkinbury

On May 20th, the Sacramento and Gold Country Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution participated as the Honor Guard in the "Missing in America Project's Honors at Arlington Send-Off Ceremony" for three distinguished veterans. The Missing in America Project is an organization started in Redding California by a group of Vietnam Veterans whose purpose is to locate the unclaimed remains of veterans and arrange for their proper military burial at the nation's various national cemeteries. The organization, still centered in Redding, now has members all across the country.

The special send-off ceremony was held in the parking lot of Arco Arena in Sacramento. This send-off was special because the remains being escorted by a motorcycle riding contingent of veterans were those of highly decorated veterans whose service qualifies them for a burial in Arlington National Cemetery, the nation's most prestigious final resting place for veterans. They were 1) Isaiah Mays, a Buffalo Soldier, who was born a slave in 1858 and received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1890. He was buried in a paupers' grave behind the Arizona State Hospital because Congress refused to give black men pensions in 1920, 2) Navy Boatswain's Mate 1st Class and Silver Star recipient, Johnnie Callahan, who during WW II grabbed a live bomb that had dropped unexploded on the deck of his ship and managed to throw it overboard before it went off, and 3) James W. Dunn, a combat medic in the 101st Airborne during the Vietnam War who also received the Silver Star for his actions amid fire in rescuing seriously wounded comrades from the battle field. The remains arrived at Arco from Redding a little after 5:00 P.M., housed in a special container on a specially built motorcycle hearse and escorted by many motorcycle riders.

Tom Chilton, Jim Faulkinbury, and Rudy Rodriguez of the Sacramento Chapter; Keith Bigbee, Dale Ross, Smith Virgil, and Earl Young of the Gold Country Chapter formed the Honor Guard, opening the ceremony by Posting the Colors and closing the ceremony by Retiring the Colors for the assemblage. Following the ceremony, the remains will begin a six-day trip across the country to Arlington. Over 200 motorcycle groups throughout the United States have been enlisted to accompany the procession as it goes along the route to their final resting place. 