



The California Compatriot

The Official Newsletter of the California Society Sons of the American Revolution

December 2022

Presidents Message

Compatriots,

As I stated at the recent CASSAR Board of Managers meeting, I want to share with you four words that summarize my vision for the next year. I discussed two of the words last month: **Inspiration and Involvement**, and I will discuss the third and fourth words this month.



The third word is Invitation. As I visit chapters, I hear a common problem. They have open positions in their chapter and they can't get anyone to volunteer. We're a volunteer organization, but if we can't get volunteers to help, we are not successful in accomplishing our goals. I'll offer a couple of suggestions from my experience in the SAR and other volunteer organizations, and you may have more ideas.

I think it is important to invite members to serve, not just wait for them to volunteer. Many people are reluctant to volunteer because of potential time commitments, uncertainty about the nature of the task or their ability to perform it. As leaders we can invite and encourage our compatriots to get involved by discussing with them their interest in the organization, the skills they have to offer, and making them feel comfortable that we are here to help them succeed.

Another suggestion is networking with other chapters to find out what works in their chapters. Our State meetings are a great place to network with other chapters, but they only occur twice a year. Take the opportunity to visit other chapters in your region during the year and learn from them. You may find out some things you can use in your chapter.

As I noted at the Board of Managers meeting, our goal is to grow the California Society of SAR by a net of 50 members next year. I believe that an average of 2 new members per chapter is achievable. Some chapters can do more. I also challenge each chapter to add one more Youth Program next year, compared to the ones you support this year. Again, some chapters can do more. We need to invite our members to get involved and serve in the best way they can.

The fourth word is Independence. Why are we doing all of this? I believe what we are doing in the SAR is interesting and fun, but I also believe we are called to a higher purpose. The world hasn't changed that much from the 18th century when our patriot ancestors were fighting against tyranny. There are countries today who believe their authoritarian form of government is superior

to our democratic republic, and they want to impose their ideas on us. One of the challenges we face today is ignorance of our founding principles and what our patriot ancestors accomplished.

You may be familiar with the survey conducted by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation in 2018. They conducted a poll of a random sample of 1000 American citizens, and asked them questions taken from the U.S. Citizenship Test. Only 36% of those tested achieved the passing score of 60%. More importantly, there was a gap in the results by age: 74% of those 65 years and older achieved the passing score, but only 19% of those under 45 years old achieved the passing score.

Our first U.S. President put it this way: "A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a Republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important, and what duty more pressing on its Legislature, than to patronize a plan for communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the Country?" – *President George Washington's eighth annual address to Congress in December, 1796.*

Compatriots, as members and leaders of the SAR, I challenge you to: be **Inspired**, get **Involved**, and **Invite** others to join us in building the SAR into a leader in:

- *Educating our youth on the history of the American Revolution through our Youth programs and our SAR Education Center and Museum,*
- *Promoting patriotism through participation in our Color Guard, Veterans programs and America250 events, and*
- *Preserving and protecting our Liberty and **Independence** as a free nation.*

Thank you for your service to SAR,
Jim Klingler, President

Wreaths Across America

December 17, 2022

Harbor Chapter Los Angeles National Cemetery





(L-R) Kevin Bidenkap, Nancy Richardson (El Redondo DAR), Jim Olds, John Richardson

Coachella Valley Chapter Forrest Lawn Cemetery — Cathedral City





Top Photo: Christopher J Cerillo, President, Coachella Valley Chapter SAR

Bottom Photo: (L-R) Christopher J Cerillo, Kris Mitchell-Doutt (Cahuilla Chapter DAR),
Curt Lane, Ed Oehler, William Haines, Ray Allen

South Coast Chapter

El Toro Memorial Park – Lake Forest



The South Coast Chapter Color Guard led the procession, of Veterans and attendees to the Military Memorial. Organized by the American Heritage Girls, over 1,200 wreaths were placed by volunteers from numerous groups.



(L-R) Kevin Forrest; Scott Whitman; Shane Gates; Nolan Forrest

Thomas Jefferson Chapter Dublin Pioneer Cemetery — Dublin



President Dan Shurtz and Greg Owens, Past President, at the Veterans Wall

Orange County Chapter Pacific View Memorial Park — Corona del Mar



OC President Paul Garcia placing a wreath at the Iwo Jima Memorial. Paul Garcia, Phil Mitchell, and 250 volunteers placed 3000 wreaths.

Orange County Chapter Memory Garden Memorial Park — Brea



(L-R) Matt Noel, Kent Gregory, John Ferris, Jon Burk and Colonel Wayne Scott, USAF (Retired.) Colonel Scott delivered the PG Proclamation.

Orange County Chapter Santa Ana Cemetery



Above Left Photo: (L-R) Ric Olsen, Dan McKelvie, Jim Klingler

Above Right Photo (Front to back): Larry Hansen, Mike Miller,
Dan McKelvie, Jim Klingler, Jon Blake (hidden)

Redwood Empire Chapter Veterans' Cemetery — Sonoma



(L-R) William Van Valkenburg, Bill Nay, Brandon Villardi, Derek Brown

Redwood Empire Chapter Mountain Cemetery — Sonoma



(L-R) President Bill Nay, Bill Van Valkenburg, Derek Brown, VPG Western District, at the grave of Captain William Smith, the only known Revolutionary War veteran buried in CA.

Sacramento Chapter Lakeside Memorial Lawn Cemetery, Veterans Hall — Folsom



(L-R) CG Cmdr David Beach, President Russ Kaiser, Don Littlefield, Jim Faulkinbury

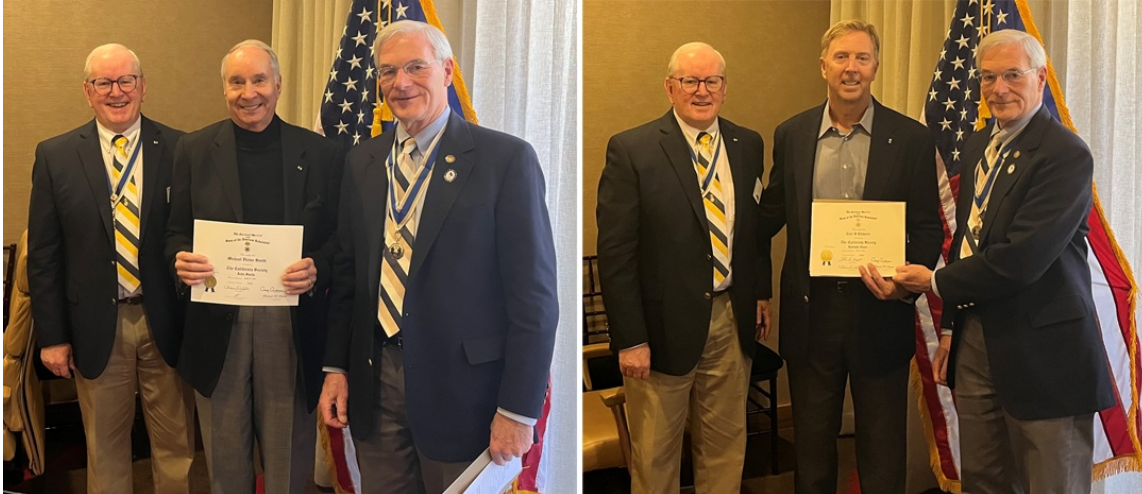


Don Littlefield stands at the entrance to Mormon Island Relocation Cemetery where the remains from at least 9 cemeteries were moved in 1954 by the Army Corps of Engineers during the building of Folsom Dam and Folsom Lake.

News From Around the California Society

Coachella Valley Chapter November meeting

Our Special Guests were CASSAR President Jim Klingler
and Vice President South John Ferris



Our two new Chapter Members were Michael V. Smith (center left) and Carl J. Gilmore (center right). Both compatriots were Sworn in by Jim Klingler (right) joined by William Haines on the left.



Jim Klingler presented the Silver Public Service Medal to David L. Grinnell



John Ferris Sworn in Our Chapter Officers and Presented the Gavel to Chapter President Christopher J. Cerillo.

Kern Chapter

The Kern Chapter Color Guard has been very busy since November 2022. On November 5th the color guard and the South High School ROTC did a flag retirement and presentation of a new flag for an adult community club house.



(L-R) Bruce Wearda, Mike Davis, Rick Meridith. Arnie Burr, Scott Davis, Wil Flickinger

On Veterans Day the color guard was in the local downtown Bakersfield parade and following the parade several members went to Kern Family Medical Center to present a Flag Certificate to their new facility.

On December 3rd the Kern Chapter and Color Guard participated in the joint Christmas meeting with DAR, CAR and SAR by presenting the colors and part

of the program. Note: A photo taken at Stockdale Country Club with the SAR Color Guard and CAR members cannot be shown for lack of a photo release.



(L-R) Mike Davis, Larry Carroll, Arnie Burr, Rick Meridith, Wil Flickinger

On December 13th the Army National Guard celebrated its 386 birthday. Kern Chapter Color Guard helped celebrate and presented the wreath as part of the ceremony.

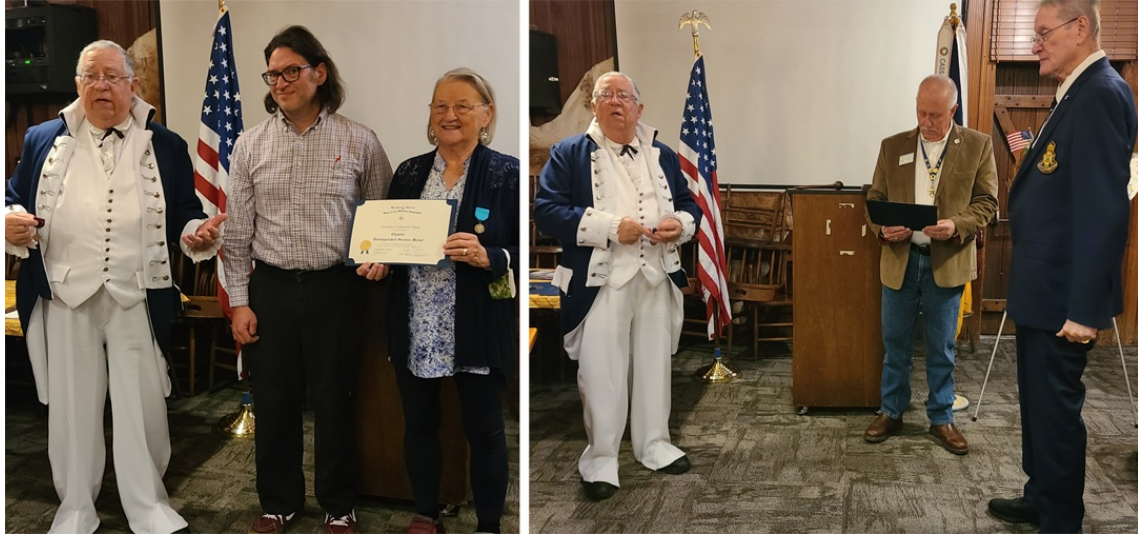
Redwood Empire Chapter Installation of 2023 Officers



Derek Brown, VPG Western District (far right), swore in the 2023 Redwood Empire Chapter Officers. The are as follows:

- William Nay - President (2nd from right)

- Jonathan Mann - VP Communications (3rd from right)
- David Willat - VP Programs (3rd from left)
- Harry Stover - Registrar (not present)
- Stanley Laughin - Recording Secretary (2nd from left)
- Mike Nay - Treasurer/Admin Secretary (far left)



Mike Nay (left center) received the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal. Bill Van Valkenburg (far right) received the Silver America 250 Medal.

San Diego Chapter 2022 is a Wrap!

The San Diego Chapter held its last meeting of 2022 at the Green Dragon Tavern and Museum on November 12. Charlie Frye was the guest speaker via Zoom. Jim McAdory gave an America250 Minute presentation on the Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge in February 1776.



(L-R) Rico Jay Buhay, Skip Cox, Gary Newton, Lynn Farrar and Michael Hirman

Two new members finally received their Member Certificate, SAR Rosette and Chapter Pin. Alan Winters and Lynn Farrar have been members for over a year but were never formally recognized during the Covid period.



Color Guard Commander, Duncan Campbell (right), received a SAR flag streamer from President Michael Hirman, on behalf of the Chapter for his participation in the Grave Marking Ceremony of Col. Jean François Hamtramck in Hamtramck, Michigan. Duncan is a dual member of the Michigan Society and was asked to participate in the event.

SAR FLAG CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Orange County Chapter



(L-R) Paul Garcia, OC Chapter President; Ken DuFour Exchange, Club President; Philip Mitchell, OC Chapter Vice President

Exchange Club Flag Certificate

The Orange County Chapter has presented a Flag Certificate to the Exchange Club for their outstanding patriotism and their support of the Field of Honor in Newport Beach.

The Exchange Club plants 1776 flags for Memorial Day weekend and invites the public to participate in ceremonies. The Orange County Chapter Color-guard has been a part of the celebration in the past.



Pictured are museum docents and Chapter President Paul Garcia (center left) and Chapter VP Philip Mitchell (right).

The Orange County SAR Chapter presented the Lyons Air Museum a Flag Certificate for flying the flag at the air museum and their unwavering patriotism and community support. In 2019, the museum hosted an excursion for attendees during the SAR national congress held in Costa Mesa.

San Diego Chapter

America 250 comes to Alpine, CA

San Diego Chapter President, Michael Hirman, presented a Flag Certificate and America250 Challenge Coins to the newly installed Alpine Union School Board. He also got a chance to speak about the upcoming 250th and asked them to incorporate into the curriculum the history of the American War of Independence. (Note: Due to the absence of a photo release, at the time of publication, the photo cannot be shown.)

CASSAR 148th Annual Meeting



CASSAR 148th Annual Meeting scheduled for April 14-15, 2023

The 148th Annual Meeting of the Members of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution will be held April 14 & 15, 2023 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa, 3050 Bristol ST., Costa Mesa, CA. To make reservations [CLICK HERE](#) or, call (714) 540-7000. The Group code is CASSAR. The special room rate \$155/night; parking is \$18/night.

SAR 133rd Annual Congress



SAR 133rd Annual Congress Hotel Reservations

Registration is now open for the SAR 133rd Annual Congress at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, FL, July 14-20, 2023. Request reservations for the "Sons of the American Revolution." Group code: **NSSAR2023**. Below is the link for the online registration.

The Rosen Plaza toll free number is 1-800-627-8258.

[SAR Congress Hotel Reservation](#)

Note: The hotel is **SOLD-OUT for Wednesday, July 19, 2023**. To be placed on a waiting list contact Paul Callanan at 704-756-0363 or LTCMRSC@aol.com.

If you book online, the default date is set to 12 July. To change your arrival date click on the calendar icon next to the date. You can also adjust the departure date by clicking on the calendar icon in the departure section.

Guarantee Policy

All reservations are required to be guaranteed with a valid credit card . Please be advised that five days prior to your arrival, an authorization equivalent to a one night's room and tax charge will be processed on your card. Authorizations on a debit card will place a hold on funds within your bank account at the time of authorization.

Cancel Policy

Cancellation required at least 5 days prior to arrival to avoid a charge of one night's room and tax. As a reminder, the **reservations cut-off date is Monday, June 12, 2023**, or until the contracted room block is sold out, whichever comes first. At 5:00PM on the cut-off date, any rooms remaining in your block will be released back to the hotel for general sale. At that point, any new bookings will be accepted based on hotel availability.

If you have any questions, please contact **Paul Callanan at 704-756-0363** or LTCMRSC@aol.com.



Whatever Happened To AB1600?

As many of you know, our attempt to get a California 250 Commission was not successful. But Assemblywoman Janet Nguyen who introduced the bill, is now Senator Nguyen and she reintroduced it to the Senate. Known as [Senate Bill 6](#) (SB6), the bill is to once again create a CA 250 Commission. Just as before, you are asked to write to your representatives to let them know how strongly you believe this is important for our Country and our State. There are now 31 State 250 Commissions. California is too great a state to be left out of what promises to be the greatest celebration the country has known. Like your patriot ancestor before you, let's make the difference!

Flag Certificates and America 250!

Did you know you can print out your flag certificates with the SAR America 250 logo? The 250 Toolkit is located on our CASSAR website. Go to the 250 page and click the [National Society Programs](#) button. From there hit the [Toolkit Download](#). In the toolkit you will find the Flag Certificate template (page 59 of PDF file) with the logo. Giving a flag certificate and informing the recipient of the 250 is a perfect combination. Just remind them those thirteen red and white stripes represent the colonies who stood up and fought 250 years ago for you and me to be free!

Revolutionary War Master Event List

On our 250 web page you will notice a [Revolutionary War Master Event List](#). Next year there are two events we should all be familiar with: March 12, 1773 Virginia Establishes a Committee of Correspondence and December 16, 1773 is the Boston Tea Party. Two events that happened 250 years ago of great significance, especially to those of us in SAR. Be sure to mark your calendars to remember, honor and celebrate these events. You may even want some time devoted in your regular meetings to inform guests who are not as familiar as you on the special events.

America 250 Honor Roll

Check out all the recipients of the Bronze, Silver and Gold in the 250 section of our website [Honor Roll - California SAR](#) . If your name should be there and isn't, contact John Ferris at jrf1776@outlook.com . If your name isn't there and you want it to be, again contact [John Ferris](#), CASSAR Chair, America 250 SAR.

This Day in History - California SAR



Click the image to play the America 250 SAR Video

READ THE 5 YEAR OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR AMERICA 250



SAR Education Center and Museum

View SAR Education Center and Museum Video

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Welcome New Members

Congratulations! Welcome to the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. We are honored that you have elected to join our society of descendants of those patriots and heroes who gave us our freedoms. The California Society conducts many patriotic, historical, and educational programs in our communities, and we rely heavily on our member volunteers to keep them strong and vibrant.

If you haven't yet been, you will shortly be contacted by a representative of your chapter; We urge you to meet your fellow compatriots, join them in their chapter programs, and become an active member of your chapter and state society. We are looking forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

NSSAR	Full	Chapter	Date
224270	Anthony Alexander Angelini	Gen George Patton	11/11/22
224272	Chesley Raymond Houske Jr.	Harbor	11/11/22
224273	Chesley Raymond Houske III	Harbor	11/11/22
224274	Charles John Lyons IV	Harbor	11/11/22
224341	Douglas Lester Decker	Harbor	11/18/22
224271	Pieter Johannes Lentz Jr.	Sacramento	11/11/22

IN MEMORIUM

LARRY MAGERKURTH (1937-2022)

Larry John Magerkurth was born on January 4, 1937 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, the son of Philip Frederick Magerkurth and Tresa Cynthia Clements.

Larry married Barbara Carey in 1958 in Bartlesville. For many years, he was the president of McDonnell Douglas Training Systems.

Larry Magerkurth joined the Sons of the American Revolution in 1997 on the service of Benjamin Clement (1700-1780), who made gunpowder for the Commonwealth of Virginia.



After an extensive career in the aerospace industry, PG Magerkurth applied his management expertise to the SAR as President of the Orange County Chapter SAR (1999-2000), President of the California Society SAR (2005-2006), Vice President General of the Western District SAR (2007-2008), and President General of the National Society SAR (2011-2012). PG Magerkurth was a member of the Minuteman Class of 2008.

We extend our sympathy to his family in this difficult time.

Memorial Service

10:00 AM, Saturday, January 21, 2022
Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church
47-321 Highway 74
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Upcoming Events

2023 Event	Date
President's Day	February 20th
148th CASSAR Annual Meeting	April 14th and 15th
Independence Day	July 4th
SAR 133rd Annual Congress	July 15th - 19th

Youth Protection Training

The National Society, requires any member who participates in SAR programs and interacts with youth under the age of 18, to successfully complete SAR Youth Protection Training. Training is online, takes about 20 minutes, and is valid for three years.

Send your certificate of completion to Dan McKelvie: mckelvie@sbcglobal.net.

[CLICK HERE TO BEGIN THE SAR YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING](#)

From the Editors Desk

CALL FOR ARTICLES – January 20, 2023 Deadline

Please send news of events and high resolution digital photos to Don Littlefield at dblittlefield@comcast.net

– RELEASE FORMS –

All photos or other materials that show or name any minor under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a signed Release Form.

[Click To Download the Release Form](#)

Important Links

[Click to Access SAR Dues and Transaction Fees](#)

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Cyber Scams

*If you receive an email, text, or voice mail from a purported Officer or Compatriot seeking any type of financial assistance, **consider it a hoax**. Phishing messages are becoming more sophisticated and may include the unauthorized use of the SAR logo, a compatriot's name, or a pseudo SAR email address. Stop -- Think -- Verify*

The California Compatriot is the official newsletter of the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the California Society SAR.

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