



Sons of the Revolution in the State of California

Patriot Dispatch — from Headquarters

Dec. 2007 - Mar. 2008

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This periodical is produced for the members of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California to enable its officers to communicate news and events. The names Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the Revolution Library, Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum, Repository of the Southwest, American Heritage Library and Museum, Friends of the Library and Museum as well as the various logos, titles and headings herein are property and trademarks of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California, a non-profit corporation qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Copyright to the material published herein is expressly owned by the author(s) thereof and/or by the Sons of the Revolution. All rights reserved.

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Communication Packet

The purpose of the *Patriot Dispatch* is to enable the Officers and Directors to communicate Society news and activities with our members. We hope that this communication will be informative and provide details of both past and up-coming events that are both timely and useful.

Society Luncheon

2008 Annual Membership Luncheon

This year's Annual Membership Luncheon, commemorating the Battles of Trenton and Princeton was held on Saturday, January 26, 2008, at the Tam O'Shanter Inn in Los Angeles. Additional information on this important aspect of the Revolutionary War will be featured in the next issue of the Society's *Golden State Patriot Magazine*. The meeting was called to order by President Mark J. Denger, who, after welcoming our members and guests, presented this year's reports as submitted and approved by the Board of Directors.

Society Reports

Annual Report

The 2007 Annual Report is available for your preview on the web site at www.srcalifornia.com. The Board of Directors encourages every member to review the 2007 Annual Report.

Library Director's Report

The 2007 Library Director's Report submitted to the Board of Directors and members at the Annual Luncheon is available on the Society's web site at www.srcalifornia.com.

Museum Director's Report

The 2007 Library Director's Report as submitted to the Board is available on the web site at www.srcalifornia.com.

Educational Programing Announced

President Denger took the opportunity to announce that the Society will be partnering with the Society of the Cincinnati and Values Through History, Inc., a non-profit corporation, in introducing a unique history and educational project here in California. This was followed by a 20-minute video presentation on the *Why America is Free* educational project to the membership present.

Society Welcomes Members

President Denger welcomed each of our prospective members and guests in attendance and introduced our newest Member: Mr. Sameer Farrell, a dual member with the New York Society.

Before adjourning, in accordance with the Society's By-Laws, Present Denger read the nomination of officers and directors voted upon at the Board Meeting and asked President Emeritus Dr. Charles B. Witt, Jr., to officiate in the swearing in of this year's officers and directors:

2008 Officers and Directors

Officers

Mr. Mark J. Denger, President
Douglas R. Boyd, Sr., Esq., Senior Vice President

Mr. Brett A. Landis, Vice President
Mr. John Rogers, Vice President & Secretary
Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., Treasurer
Mr. Matthew L. Huss, Registrar

Board of Directors (Term Expiring 2011)

Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr.
Judge William W. Huss, Jr.
CAPT Lockwood Eddy, USNR
Mr. Brett A. Landis
Mr. Nishan O. Partamian

Following the swearing in ceremony, upon a motion from the floor, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Society Activities

Annual George Washington Birthday Reception and Open House

The third Monday in February has become a time when members of the Society converge upon the American Heritage Library and Museum to pay homage and honor to the memory of our first President on the occasion of President's Day. This year, the Sons of the Revolution, in conjunction with the Friends of the Library and Museum, served as host to over 98 patriotic citizens and honored guests. In addition to our series of distinguished list of lecturers, as well as an afternoon filled with patriotic music and guided tours of the American Heritage Library and Museum, good fellowship was enjoyed by all.

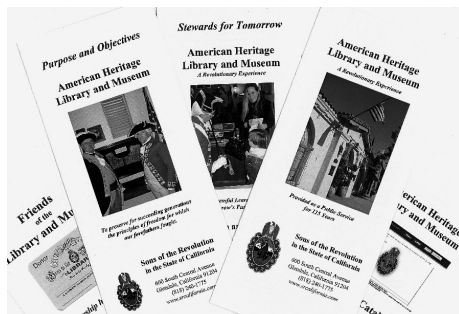
85th Annual George Washington Birthday Commemorative Church Service

The Sons of the Revolution commemorated the sacrifices made by those brave men and women who brought this nation into being. The Sons of the Revolution held its 85th annual George Washington Commemorative Birthday Church Service on Sunday, February 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the Episcopal Cathedral Center of St. Paul located at 840 Echo Park Ave., Los Angeles, California. Officiated by President Mark J. Denger and Presidents Emeritus Dr. Charles B. Witt, Jr., and Judge William W. Huss, Jr., this special church service honors the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, who led our armies during the War for Independence and became the Father of our Country. This service was founded by the Rt. Rev. William Bernard Stevens, Episcopal Bishop of Los Angeles and a longtime Chaplain of the California Society.

Library and Museum

American Heritage Library and Museum

The SR Library and Museum takes on a new name — *American Heritage Library and Museum* — and a new look.



This resource and learning center is the legacy of the Sons of the Revolution to the people of California, which honors the men and women who achieved America's Independence.

Reflective of our mission, we honor America's patriots through community celebrations, promoting educational programs, and operating the American Heritage Library and Museum. At the library and museum we endeavor to connect people with information and ideas, hope to inspire curiosity and to foster learning, and strive to sustain America's cultural heritage.

Our unique facility combines resources for learning about America's heritage and each individual's heritage. The library chronicles our heritage through an extensive collection of family histories, local histories, records, manuscripts, and other research materials available via the computer and the internet. The museum houses historical artifacts and works of art from the colonial period through the present. The displays meld the library holdings with the museum holdings and interpretive discussion to present an expansive view of Americana. This approach to teaching history makes these displays distinctive.

SR Membership News

New Members

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, the following gentlemen have been admitted to membership:

Jeffrey A. Engler 3397-L

Capt. Nathaniel Burwell, Virginia Artillery under Lt. Col. Edward Carrington. (Original member of the Cincinnati)

Sameer Farrell 3398-L

Pvt. James Farrell, Captain Benjamin Lusby Curry's Company, Charles County Militia, 2d Maryland Regiment, 1777 to 1780; 4th Maryland Regiment, 1780 to 1781.

Alexander George Ball 3399-JL

Pvt and Capt. William Gilreath, Jr., South Carolina. (Son of George Dexter Ball (SR 3388))

Congratulations to each of these gentlemen. We are always looking for a few "Good Men".

California to Host SR Triennial in 2009

Last year, President Denger formed a committee to look into the possibility of hosting the 2009 Triennial. A plan was submitted last October. Thanks in part to the efforts of Senior Vice President Douglas R. Boyd, Sr., and President Emeritus Richard H. Briethaupt, Jr., the General President has informed the California Society that their proposal to host the 2009 Triennial was accepted, which was unanimously accepted by every member of the General Society Board, including each of the Regional Vice Presidents.

The proposal earmarks the Glendale Hilton (officially "Hilton Los Angeles North") to serve as the Triennial site. This particular hotel has received the Auto Club's 4 diamonds award, four years in a row, and has the highest service scores of any Hilton hotel in the LA region. Given its proximity to the American Heritage Library and Museum, a quality program and headline speaker for the banquet, it will be a very successful event.

Educational Programing

Why America Is Free

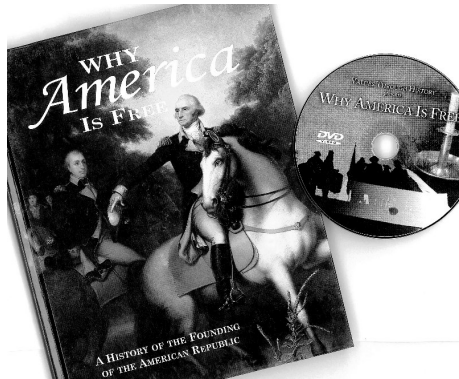
The Sons of the Revolution in the State of California has a long-standing commitment to education. We believe that the guiding principles of the American Revolution are relevant today. Our schools, however, due to changing priorities are devoting less time to teaching those principles. As part of our commitment, we are joining with the Society of the Cincinnati and the educational non-profit Values Through History, Inc., (VTH) to provide the educational community with two valuable resources that return the Revolution and its principles to the classroom.

Background. The Society of the Cincinnati sponsored the development of the textbook, *Why America Is Free*, to teach the key causes and events of the Revolution. This textbook was first published in 1998 in partnership with the Mount Vernon's Ladies' Association and is now in its second printing.

In 2002 the Cincinnati partnered with VTH and sponsored the development of a DVD promoting the textbook. By 2005 the partnership developed a multi-disciplinary curriculum for fifth-grade students that brings to life the events, times, and heroes of the American Revolutionary period as well as the values and principles upon which the nation was founded. This curriculum has the goal of expanding minds, generating respect and responsibility, strengthening character, and unifying us as Americans.

The California SR Education Advisory Committee evaluated the textbook and the program and determined that they meet California Teaching Standards for the fifth grade. The SR Board of Directors approved on January 25, 2008, partnering with the Cincinnati and VTH to promote the textbook and the curriculum in public and private school throughout California.

The curriculum, while still new, has been established in a number of school districts across the country with great success. Educators and students find that the program achieves its goals in a way that is fun and memorable for the participants.



Our first task will be to place a *Why America Is Free* textbook and a VTH introductory DVD with each of the board members, administrators, and fifth-grade teachers in the Glendale and La Canada Unified School Districts. Next we will set up meetings with the educators and the VTH directors to discuss the program and steps to establishing them in their school district and to answer questions. Then we will explore grant opportunities to assist the school districts in obtaining the materials. Our work will be implemented in multiple phases as we focus on schools throughout California.

SR members and our friends can help in the following ways: 1. Let us know what contacts you have in the schools and the school districts that will facilitate our meeting with the decision makers. This could take the form of contact lists or personal introductions. 2. Sponsor kits (1 textbook + 1 DVD @ \$12.00 each) to be sent to educators.

We encourage your participation in this exciting endeavor. You can review *Why America Is Free* at the Library and Museum and can view the VTH program at their website www.valuesthroughhistory.org or through the introductory DVD available at the Library and Museum.

Mark Your Calendar

Dates to Remember

- 26 Jan 2008**
Annual (Trenton-Princeton) Membership Luncheon
- 18 February 2008**
Annual Washington Birthday Reception & Open House
- 22 February 2008**
George Washington's Birthday
- 24 February 2008**
85th Annual Washington Birthday Church Service
- 5 April 2008**
Board of Directors Meeting
- 19 April 2008**
Patriot's Day
- Lexington & Concord Luncheon
- 8-15 May 2008**
115th Birthday Celebration
- 17 May 2008**
Armed Forces Day
- 26 May 2008**
Memorial Day
- 14 June 2008**
Flag Day
- 232nd Birthday of the U.S. Army
- Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 July 2008**
Independence Day
- Let Freedom Ring* National Bell Ringing Ceremony
- 12 July 2008**
Independence Day Luncheon
- 6 September 2008**
Board of Directors Meeting
- 17-23 September 2008**
Constitution Week
- 13 October 2008**
233rd Birthday of the U.S. Navy
- 17 October 2008**
Battle of Saratoga
- 18 October 2008**
Saratoga & Yorktown Luncheon
- Board of Directors Meeting
- 19 October 2008**
Surrender at Yorktown
- 10 November 2008**
232nd Birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps
- 11 November 2008**
Veterans Day
- 13 December 2008**
372nd Birthday of the National Guard
- 25-26 December 2008**
Battle of Trenton

President's Message

This past year was marked with tremendous accomplishments across a broad range of programs. Perhaps the most important of these has been associated with our museum. Like the Library, its common purpose is to endow the hearts and minds of this generation, and all those who follow, with the veneration for the brave men who fought to establish this nation.

Promoting the memory of the American Revolution and its heroes is an ambitious role for any organization, much less one thousands of miles away from any battlefield or historic building of the Revolutionary War era. Some might view this as an impossible task. Yet, thanks to the financial support of our members, we are doing just that through the Library and Museum.

This year, we have changed the name of our Library and Museum to the *American Heritage Library and Museum* to better reflect our mission. Our ambition is to transform the Library and Museum into both an educational show place where our visitors and patrons can share their *American Heritage* with their children and grandchildren. We want them to be able to think of our Library and Museum as an extension of their own family's history – a place that shows their connection to the *American Experience* – and a place where we can show the relevancy of the American Revolution today.

Looking ahead, the Library and Museum will become an ever greater educational resource center for carrying out our stated purpose. That is why we are now in the process of developing a series of exhibits to meet these challenges. But we need your help to achieve this important goal. Generation after generation of descendants of American patriots have utilized this remarkable Library. Now we have an opportunity to extend this treasure to teachers and parents as a learning center to acquaint each rising generation with a deeper sense of that it means to be an "American."

By focusing rightly on such noble ideals, directly or indirectly, the *American Heritage Library and Museum* is fast becoming a repository of extraordinary importance and unique in scope here on the west coast. The modernization of the Library in recent years has indeed helped the Society to bring the Library into the current century. Now, we must use the Library and Museum to expand its reach to ensure continual access to the knowledge and information that is so deeply connected to *America's past*.

The future depends on each of us! Yes, we are the Sons of the Revolution! We are an organization composed solely of the posterity of those venerable men who, by their acts or counsel between April 19, 1775, when the Revolutionary War commenced, and April 19, 1783, when that conflict cease, in the military, naval or marine service of the United States, or in the service of the Continental Congress or the congress of any of the original 13 Colonies, helped to achieve America's independence! And yes, we are the descendants of the men who marched with Washington, who overcame enormous obstacles to establish a system of government unparalleled in history.

Who's better qualified to tell the America's story? — to preserve its heritage?

Each of us, by joining the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California, undertook a sacred responsibility to ensure that the memory of our ancestors are preserved. We all fully understood that the Library and Museum was our main patriotic project. So yes, some may think that my message is the same, but it is only through the support of those, like yourselves, who are committed to the high ideals set forth by of our Revolutionary War ancestors that we are able to continue this important and vital work. Your support is vital! We need your commitment and support. So please join me and the Sons of the Revolution TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplished More) in preserving our nation's *American Heritage*.

Mark Denger

Purpose and Objects



It being evident, from the steady decline of a proper celebration of the National Holidays of the United States of America, that popular concern in the events and men of the War of the Revolution is gradually declining, and that such lack of interest is attributable, not so much to the lapse of time and the rapid increase of immigration from foreign countries, as to the neglect, on the part of descendants of Revolutionary heroes, to perform their duty in keeping before the public mind the memory of the services of their ancestors and of the times in which they lived;

Therefore, the Society of Sons of the Revolution has been instituted to perpetuate the memory of the men who, in the military, naval and civil service of the colonies and of the Continental Congress, by their acts or counsel, achieved the Independence of the country, and to the proper celebration of the anniversaries of the birthday of Washington, and of prominent events connected with the War of the Revolution; to collect and secure for preservation the rolls, records and other documents relating to that period; to inspire the members of the Society with the patriotic spirit of their forefathers; and to promote the feeling of friendship among them.