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# Golden State Patriot

*A Newsletter of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California*

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**Spring  
2007**

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*Fraunces Tavern Museum  
A Tribute to a President  
John Austin Stevens - Founder  
Service and Sacrifice*

***Braddock Campaign***



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## *Golden State Patriot*



Newsletter of the Sons of the Revolution

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Sons of the Revolution in the State of California  
a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation  
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# Why We Celebrate Patriots Day

The "shot heard 'round the world" continues to reverberate each April as the members of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California gather to celebrate "Patriots Day" in honor of those who participated in the battles and skirmishes that began our fight for independence.

Yes, we continue to take our "Patriots Day" observance seriously here in California. This year, like in years past, the Sons of the Revolution will commemorate the battles of Lexington and Concord during our Patriots Day Luncheon on Saturday, April 21.

Most Americans have lost sight of this annual celebration. Here in California, few even know of its celebration or the events surrounding the Patriots Day observance.

Nevertheless, it was on the night of April 18, 1775, that, approximately 700 British soldiers had gathered on Boston Common to prepare for a raid on American military arms and supplies stored in nearby Concord, that patriots Paul Revere and William Dawes, both residents of Boston, set out to warn their fellow colonists. Over the next 24 hours, a series of events ensued which took Massachusetts and the other twelve colonies one step closer to Independence.

On the fateful morning of April 19, 1775, American colonists prepared to confront the soldiers of the British Army who were soon to arrive at the Massachusetts town of Lexington. The British mission was to seize and destroy militia weapons and ammunition, but the local militia, known as Minutemen, stood on Lexington Green, awaiting their arrival. During the stand off, someone fired a shot, which led the British troops to fire upon the colonial militia. As the Minutemen dispersed, the British continued their march toward nearby Concord.

At the Concord North Bridge, a small group of militia engaged the force of British soldiers. At this point, the British commander decided to retreat-back toward Lexington, as it became evident that more and more Minutemen were arriving from all of the local villages and farms. During this retreat, the British kept to the road, while the American militia fired at them from behind trees, walls and any obstacle they could find. When the British force returned to Lexington, they were met by a relief column. The combined British units then turned and headed for Boston. The Minutemen continued to harass them the whole way.

By the end of the day, British casualties numbered 273, while the colonials suffered only 94, 18 of whom fell during the initial clash at Lexington. With this initial engagement the American Revolutionary War had begun. By the end of the next day, Minutemen from the neighboring area had surrounded Boston and laid siege to the port city.

Thereafter, on July 2, 1775, George Washington, a planter from distant Virginia, took charge of this army. Eight months later, British troops evacuated Boston. In Massachusetts the fighting was over, but the War for Independence had only begun.

# President's Message

On behalf of the officers and members of the board, I want to express our appreciation to you for the honor accorded us. We, like you, have been entrusted with an important legacy to preserve. Our forefathers overcame enormous obstacles to establish a system of government unequalled in history. We, their posterity, being the beneficiaries of their sacrifice, have a duty to do our utmost to fulfill the purpose and objectives of this Society as effectively as so many dedicated gentlemen have done over the past 114 years.



Yet, having recently celebrated the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of George Washington's birth, I am concerned by the lack of respect given to our nation's first president. It raises the question, "Are we doing our job?" George Washington has been sculpted, painted, emulated and deified for more than 200 years, yet few Americans today have any idea who he was as a man. With a disregard to our past, September 11<sup>th</sup> is now being called Patriots Day.

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of California was instituted "to promote and assist in the proper celebration of" such anniversaries as Washington's birthday. So again, I have to ask myself, where were you, our members, this past President's Day? Is this holiday, like so many of our other celebrations, simply becoming just another three-day holiday? Why?

As we are the Sons of the men who marched with Washington to achieve our nation's independence, and made possible the republic of the United States, I think the time has come for each of us to refocus ourselves and renew our commitment towards the proper commemoration of George Washington's birthday and those other Revolutionary War celebrations. We have a duty to preserve our forefathers' legacy. Yes, a duty!

In this spirit, I am asking each and every member to please join me in supporting the Sons of the Revolution – participating in its activities, its luncheon, and sustaining our library and museum. In many ways, our library and museum not only reflect the many faces of George Washington and his life, but the Revolutionary War itself. We can serve the community in a meaningful way only with your help. As the Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum remains our main *patriotic service* to the people of California, it is only through your continued support that we are able to preserve this remarkable heritage for the next generation.

Mark J. Denger  
President

## 2007 OFFICERS

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## Recent Presidents Emeritus

**Merrick Browne (2007)**  
**Charles B. Witt, Jr., M.D. (2005)**  
**H. Newell Williams, Esq. (2001)**  
**Norman S. Marshall, Esq. (2000)**  
**Hon. Alexander R. Early, III (1998)**  
**Hon. William W. Huss, Jr. (1997)**  
**Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr. (1996)**  
**MG John M. Wright, Jr. (1993)**  
**Robert B. Ferguson (1988)**  
**John R. Justice (1987)**

# George Washington Birthday Reception

The third Monday in February has come to be known as President's Day. As most of America simply enjoyed another three-day holiday, over 160 patriotic citizens joined with the members of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California on this special occasion to remember Washington's deeds and his advice.

Without Washington, America would never have won the War of Independence. He played the central role in the Constitutional Convention and, as our first President, set the precedents that define what it means to be a constitutional executive: strong and energetic, aware of the limits of authority but guarding the prerogatives of office. Washington not only rejected offers to become king, but also was one of the first leaders in world history to relinquish power voluntarily. His peaceful transfer of the presidency to John Adams in 1797 inaugurated one of America's greatest democratic traditions.

George Washington, the man who, more than any other, made possible our republican form of government, was born on the 22nd day of February 1732. The ancestors of George Washington were among the first settlers of the oldest British colony in America. He was the third in descent from John Washington, an English gentleman, who in the middle of the 17th century emigrated from the north of England, and settled in Westmoreland county, Virginia. In the place where he had fixed himself, his great grandson, the son of Augustine Washington was born.



CW2 Charles "Cap" Cresap, California Center for Military History, and Brett A. Landis, Cornwallis' 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot in front of the Braddock-Washington's Saddle Pad.



Mrs. Stephen N. (Elizabeth) Hay and Mrs. Charles B. (Colette) Witt, Jr., Co-Chairs, Friends of the Library and Museum.

This past President's Day, over 160 honored guests converged upon the city of Glendale and the Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum to pay homage and honor to the memory of our first president on the occasion of the 275th anniversary of his birth.

Once again hosted by the Friends of the Library and Museum, our distinguished honor guard from Gen. Cornwallis's 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot, led by Brett A. Landis, greeted arriving guests as recorded period music, performed by the U.S. Army's Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, played in the background.



**Guests awaiting next featured speaker.**

Following the traditional welcome by the Society's newly elected President, Mr. Mark J. Denger, and co-hosts, Mrs. Charles B. (Colette) Witt, Jr., and Mrs. Stephen N. (Elizabeth) Hay, this year's Washington's birthday celebration was kicked off in high gear.

A departure from previous years, the event leaned more to a Tavern-Style Open House, which featured a series of lectures and guided tours of the Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum throughout the afternoon. The list of distinguished lecturers included one of the History Channel's noted authorities on early military history, Roger D. McGrath, Ph.D. Major McGrath, a member of the California Center for Military History, spoke on Washington's early years in the militia. He was followed by MSNBC Anchor and Senior Correspondent Alexandra "Alex" Witt, who, following a brief video clip from one of her morning news spots, spoke on the record auction held at Christie's of Charles Wilson Peale's portrait of George Washington. Alex was immediately followed by her father, President Emeritus and a Washington family descendant Dr. Charles B. Witt, Jr., who spoke on Washington's health and the controversial facts surrounding his death.

With breaks throughout the program, guests were treated to a fine assortment of "hors d'oeuvres" and beverages, as other lecturers like President Emeritus Judge William W. Huss, Jr., spoke on Washington's attitude on religion.

To the delight of all, prospective member Edgar Allan Poe IV, whose father is a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, gave a special reading of his great-grandfather's poem — The Raven. Mr. Bill Principe, spoke on Washington's life at Mount Vernon and Mr. Brett A. MacDonald provided our guests with an insight into Washington the Mason and Freemasonry.

Among the various groups represented included distinguished members of the Society of the Cincinnati, Daughters of the Cincinnati, Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution, California State Military Reserve, California Center for Military History, United States Navy Reserve, and others.



**Miss Aimee Clayton, State President, California State Society, Children of the American Revolution with Mr. Mark J. Denger, State President, Sons of the Revolution.**

As a special treat, noted author and President Emeritus, Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., spoke on the history of Washington's favorite beverage — Fish House Punch. For years, the true recipe for this colonial concoction of Philadelphia's Schuylkill Gentleman's Club has been a closely guarded secret. However, to the delight of all, the recipe for this marvelous beverage was provided by Mr. Breithaupt as samples were passed out for everyone's taste and enjoyment.

# Fraunces Tavern Museum

Fraunces Tavern Museum is a survivor of the early days of colonial New York. Nestled in the heart of New York's financial district, it stands as the oldest building in Manhattan. This historic 18th century building, along with four adjacent 19th century structures, houses one of the finest museum collections dedicated to the study and interpretation of early American history and culture.



This site, on the corner of Broad and Pearl Streets, New York City, was originally a water lot, on the so-called "Strand," granted to Colonel Stephanus Van Cortlandt,<sup>1</sup> Mayor of New York (1677-1700), by the city in 1686. Later filled in as one of Manhattan Island's first landfills, the property was located along Dock Street, now Pearl Street.

The property was given by Van Cortlandt in 1700 to his son-in-law Stephen DeLancy, a French Huguenot merchant, who had married his daughter Anne. DeLancey contended with the Livingstons for leadership in colonial New York. Here in 1719 he erected a magnificent structure as his residence (the present building), and no doubt at that time it was one of the finest houses in all of New York.

The Royal Exchange and the older Stadt Buys were then nearby, the Van Cortlandts lived across the street, as did many of the city's prominent citizens. By 1735 the DeLanceys had moved to a new home on Broadway, just north of Trinity Church, and this fine old house was transformed into a place of entertainment by Henry Holt. It again returned to its original form and served as a residence for Colonel Joseph Robinson. In 1759, the Robinson's residence became a place of business for the firm of DeLancey, Robinson and Company, dealers in European and East India goods, army and ship stores, etc.

On January 15, 1762, the firm of DeLancey, Robinson and Company sold the property to Samuel Fraunces, a free black man of French extraction, who had come from the West Indies, and had been an innkeeper and caterer in New York since 1755. Samuel Fraunces opened the place in 1763, calling it the "Queens Head Tavern," after Queen Charlotte, the young wife of King George III of England. His first advertisement appears in *The New York Gazette* of April 4, 1763. Being a large house, the "Queens Head Tavern" was well suited for the purpose of hosting public entertainments in its "Long Room." The "Queens Head Tavern" was patronized by the social elite in New York and noted for its good Madeira.

In 1765 Fraunces leased the tavern to John Jones who called it the "Free Masons Arms" and in 1766 to Bolton and Sigell, while he meanwhile continued his business at the "Vauxhall Gardens" on nearby Greenwich Street. It was during this period, in 1768, that the Chamber of Commerce of New York was founded in the "Long Room," and subsequent meetings were also held there to consider the Non-Importation Agreement. Richard Bolton ran the tavern and inn as sales proprietor in 1770, when the "Long Room" was the favorite place for dances, parties, concerts, and other charitable entertainments of the time.

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<sup>1</sup> Stephanus Van Cortlandt is an eighth-great grandfather of President Emeritus Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr.

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Samuel Fraunces again took possession of the property in May 1770, and his advertisement announced that it has been “refitted in the most genteel and convenient manner for the reception and entertainment of those gentlemen, ladies and others, who used to favor him with their company,” etc. Thereafter, the New York Society began to hold its meetings there, and on Saint George’s Day, April 23, 1771, the Governors of the Province met there. “The Social Club” also met every Saturday evening and continued to do so until December 1775.

Several incidents connected the tavern with the Revolution, for on April 22, 1774, the Sons of Liberty and Vigilance Committee first met there, and the result was that an attack was made upon the ship *London*, which had just arrived at the East India Company's wharf nearby, and the tea chest in the cargo broken open and contents thrown overboard. On May 14, 1774, in consequence of the news from England that the Port of Boston was to be closed on June 1, a meeting of merchants assembled there to consider the question of uniting with other Colonies in a call for a Congress of the Colonies; this resulted in the issue, on May 23, of the famous letter in which the idea of the Union of the Colonies was first expressed, which resulted in the First Continental Congress.

August 25, 1774, the Massachusetts Delegates to the Continental Congress were entertained by the New York Delegates and a banquet followed in the “Long Room” at Fraunces Tavern, which John Adams refers to as “the most splendid dinner I ever saw.” It was at this meeting of the provincial Congress of New York, that Samuel Fraunces first met George Washington.<sup>2</sup>

On May 6, 1775, John Adams and the Massachusetts Delegates to the Second Continental Congress stopped over night there on their way to Philadelphia. Randall tells us that on August 23, 1775, when the British sixty-four gun man-of-war *Asia* fired on nearby Fort George, Alexander

Hamilton and Hercules Mulligan were in the process of pulling the cannons out from the fort. There apparently was an exchange of musket fire with one British soldier killed. As Hamilton pulled the cannons away at midnight, the *Asia* fired on the city on August 23, 1775, the roof of the building was hit, and Philip Freneau made the event memorable in these lines:

*Scarce a broadside was ended  
'till another began again —  
By Jove! it was nothing but  
Fire away Flannagan!  
Some thought him saluting  
his Sally's and Nancy's  
'Till he drove a round shot  
through the roof of Sam Frances.*

The New York Provincial Congress met at Fraunces Tavern from May 18 to June 30, 1776, when the following Bill was rendered:

The Honorable Provincial Congress, Dr., to Samuel Fraunces, New York.

To an entertainment - 14 June 1776	45. oz. os.
To 6 Doz. & 6 bottles of Madeira	23. 8 0
To 2 Doz. & 6 bottles of Port	9. 0 0
To Porter 23/ Cyder 37/ Spruce 4/6	4. 9 6
To Sangary 66/ To do. 18/ Punch 12/	4. 16 0
To Madeira 12/ Bitters 3/	0. 15 0
To Lights 8/ Wine Glasses broken 16/	1. 4 6
To Wine Decanters 8/ 2 Water Decanters 14/0	1. 2 0
To A Chainie Pudding Dish 12/ Tumblers 14/	<u>1. 6 0</u>
	91. 1s od.

(This account was audited and paid June 25, 1776.)

This is probably the bill for the “elegant entertainment” writers have referred to as given to General Washington and his suite, general and staff officers, and commanding officers of the regiments, given by the Provincial Congress on June 18, 1776.

During the British occupation of New York, Fraunces Tavern was the scene of many convivial gatherings and entertainments given by the British troops and even had some of the officers quartered there. Advertisements in *The New York Gazette* and *Weekly Mercury* of 1778, and 1781, show that Samuel Fraunces continued as landlord of the place

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<sup>2</sup>Samuel Fraunces was also a Mason, as was Washington, and the two men developed a long lasting friendship, which led to Fraunces’ appointment as Chief Steward to our nation’s first President.

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during the period of British occupation.<sup>3</sup> One writer alludes to it as the “Tavern near the Ferry, at which, for seven years, the officers of the British Army, including poor John Andre, had gloried and drunk deep.”

Despite this, the first celebration of Evacuation Day took place on November 25, 1783, and on that same evening a public dinner was given at Fraunces Tavern by Governor Clinton in honor of General Washington, the Commander-in-Chief. On this memorable occasion the celebrated thirteen toasts were drunk. The cost of this banquet was 97. 12s & 0d. General Washington's intimate connection with Fraunces Tavern during the period of his brief stay in New York from November 26 to December 4, 1783, is shown by a bill from Samuel Fraunces on file in the Library of Congress amounting to 95. 15s. & 6d.

It was on a Thursday, December 4, 1783, at twelve o'clock, where it is estimated that some forty-four of our greatest military leaders were present, General Washington bade farewell to his officers in the Long Room of Fraunces Tavern.



We are indebted to the diary of Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge, Washington's deputy for Intelligence, for the account of this great and memorable scene:

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<sup>3</sup>Yet, Samuel Fraunces was a tavern keeper without a peer and his patriotism cannot be questioned, for in consequence of his generous advances and kindness to American prisoners and secret services during the British occupation, he received a vote of thanks in July, 1782, and £200 as a gratuity from Congress.

*The time now drew near when the Commander-in-Chief intended to leave this part of the country for his beloved retreat at Mount Vernon. On Tuesday, the 4th of December, it was made known to the officers then in New York, that Gen. Washington intended to commence his Journey on that day. At 12 o'clock the officers repaired to Francis' Tavern, in Pearl Street, where Gen. Washington had appointed to meet them, and to take his final leave of them.*

*We had been assembled but a few moments, when His Excellency entered the room. His emotion, too strong to be concealed, seemed to be reciprocated by every officer present. After partaking of a slight refreshment, in almost breathless silence, the General tilled his glass with wine, and turning to the officers, he said; "With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable."*

*After the officers had taken a glass of wine, Gen. Washington said: "I cannot come to each of you, but shall feel obliged if each of you will come and take me by the hand."*

*Gen. Knox being nearest to him, turned to the Commander-in-Chief, who, suffused with tears, was incapable of utterance, but grasped his hand; when they embraced each other in silence. In the same affectionate manner, every officer in the room marched up to, kissed, and parted with his General-in-Chief.*

*Such a scene of sorrow and weeping I had never before witnessed, and hope I may never be called upon to witness again. It was indeed too affecting to be of, long continuance — for tears of deep sensibility filled every eye — and the heart seemed so full, that it was ready to burst from its wonted abode. Not a word was uttered to break the solemn silence that prevailed, or to interrupt the tenderness of the interesting scene. The simple thought that we were then about to part from the man who had conducted us through a long and bloody war, and under whose conduct the glory and independence of our country had been achieved, and that we should see his face no more in this world, seemed to me utterly insupportable.*

*But the time of separation had come, and waving his hand to his grieving children around him, he left the room, and passing through a corps of light infantry who were paraded to receive him, he walked silently on to Whitehall, where a barge was waiting. We all followed in mournful silence to the wharf, where a prodigious*



*crowd had assembled to witness the departure of the man who, under God, had been the great agent of establishing the glory and independence of these United States. As soon as he was seated, the barge put off into the river, and when he was out in the stream, our great and beloved General waived his hat, and bid us a silent adieu.*

*We paid him the same compliment, and then returned to the same hotel whence Gen. Washington had so recently departed.*

Samuel Fraunces, having owned the Tavern for some twenty-three years, sold it on April 23, 1785, to George Powers. Eight weeks later, on June 19, 1785, Secretary of Foreign Affairs John Jay and his staff moved into four rooms of the building — being the first of three departments of the government to move in as a new tenant. Both the Department of the Treasury and the Department of War established offices here in April 1787. The building, so long a center of New York social life, now became a nerve center for the new Republic.

On June 22, 1800, Fraunces Tavern was sold to Thomas Gardner for the sum of \$7,500. It was under the ownership of Gardner that on July 4, 1804, a week before their famous duel, Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton dined together here at the annual meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati.

It was upon the death of Gardner that Fraunces Tavern was inherited by his sons, Thomas, Jr., and John Gardner. John Gardner died in 1817 leaving a large estate to his daughters Malvina and Jane, who subsequently inherited the Tavern. It was from Gardner's great-grandchildren that the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, in June 1904, purchased the tavern. Shortly thereafter, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution began restoration efforts which were completed in 1907. Fraunces Tavern Museum opened its doors to the public that year and for many years Fraunces Tavern also served as home to the General Society, Sons of the Revolution.

The Fraunces Tavern museum complex, one of the most important centers of historical education in New York City, will celebrate its centennial this year. A remarkable piece of the Sons' history.

## **Annual Membership Luncheon**

The Society's 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting commemorating the Battle of Princeton was held on January 27, 2007 at Clancy's Seafood Broiler in Glendale, California. The meeting was called to order by President Merrick Browne and following a delightful lunch, President Browne commended the fine effort of the Society's leadership team during his two years in office and publically recognized several members for their support of the Society at the luncheon.

Receiving the Society's Meritorious Service Award were: Mr. John Rogers, Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt Jr., Mr. Douglas R. Boyd, Sr., and Mr. Brett A. Landis. Receiving the President's Commendation were: Mr. Mark J. Denger, Mrs. Colette Witt and Mrs. Silvia Barton-Shorey.

In accordance with the Society's By-Laws, President Browne read the nominations of officers and directors, and after calling for any additional nominations from the floor, proceeded with the election of the 2007 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 E. Rogers, Vice President & Secretary  
Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., Treasurer  
Mr. Matthew L. Huss, Registrar

### **Board of Directors (Term Expiring 2008)**

Mr. Nishan O. Partamian

### **Board of Directors (Term Expiring 2010)**

Mr. Merrick Browne  
Mr. Matthew L. Huss  
Mr. Brett A. MacDonald  
Mr. Scott E. Tracy  
Charles B. Witt, Jr., M.D.

Following the transition and ceremonial passing of the gavel over to the Society's newly elected President, Mr. Denger presented outgoing President Merrick Browne with this Society's highest award, the Distinguished Service Award. He then presented him with the Past President's Breast Star. Upon a motion from the floor, and duly seconded, our immediate Past President Merrick Browne was also afforded the title of President Emeritus for his exemplary service to the Society.

# A Tribute to a President

The Hon. Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, was duly admitted on June 11, 1994, as a life member (State No. 3184-L) in the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California by right of the services of Ezra Chase. A Private in Capt. Ebenezer Colby's Company of Minutemen within Col. Johnson's Regiment, Ezra Chase marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Cambridge, Massachusetts.



**President Gerald R. Ford, Jr.**

Born Leslie Lynch King, Jr., on July 14, 1913 in Omaha, Nebraska, the son of Leslie Lynch King and Dorothy Ayer Gardner, he was adopted by his stepfather and had his name changed to Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr. A graduate of Yale University Law School with LLB degree, he was admitted to the Michigan Bar and began to practice law as a member of the law firm of Buchan and Ford.

A World War II veteran, from 1942-46, he served his country in the U.S. Navy on the aircraft carrier USS *Monterey*, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Returning to civilian life, he soon entered politics. And Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., or “Jerry” to his friends, had held a Michigan constituency since 1948. Beginning as early as 1964 he had served as the Republican minority leader in the House of Representatives. He claimed to have had “*lots of adversaries, but no enemies that I can remember.*” The Speakership of the House was the summit of his ambition. With not even a thought of the White House whatsoever, Ford had become Vice President upon the resignation of Spiro Agnew.

As President Nixon departed from the White House, Vice President Gerald R. Ford took the oath of office at a small gathering. “Congratulations, Mr. President”, said Chief Justice Warren Burger. The transition had been formally completed. In a brief and simple inaugural speech President Ford told the nation: “*I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots. So I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers. . . . I have not campaigned either for the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. I have not subscribed to any partisan platform. I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman — my dear wife — as I begin this very difficult job.*”

His choice of Nelson Rockefeller as Vice President annoyed conservative Republicans. So much so, that when Ford announced his candidacy for the 1976 presidential election, he was pitted not only against the Democrats but against rival contenders in his own party — notably former California Governor Ronald Reagan. Ford was beaten by a margin of only two percent by Democratic nominee Jimmy Carter of Georgia.

President Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr. quietly passed away on December 26, 2006, at the age of 93 at his home in Rancho Mirage, California.

As the Society closed one administration and entered another, the nation honored former President Ford in a high-powered fanfare for the common man who was summoned to the presidency in the midst of the Watergate crisis.

A state funeral that began in Palm Desert, California, in a church where the Fords worshiped in his retirement years. This was followed by the Washington portion of the state funeral, and concluded with a final public visitation in Grand Rapids, where in a private service the interment took place on a hillside overlooking his museum.

*“In President Ford, the world saw the best of America and America found a man whose character and leadership would bring calm and healing to one of the most divisive moments in our nation's history,”* President Bush said in his eulogy.

He was remembered for what he didn't have — pretensions, a scheming agenda, a great golf game — as much as for the small-town authenticity he brought to high office.

Three living former presidents, Clinton, the elder Bush and Jimmy Carter, who defeated Ford in 1976, all were present as former President Bush, in his opening eulogy, called Ford a *“Norman Rockwell painting come to life.”* For in truth, that he was. He will always be remembered by our Society with affection.

## Historian's Corner

As we remember the passing of one member and former President, it is only fitting that we pause to remember another — President Herbert Hoover.

The Hon. Herbert Clark Hoover, 31<sup>st</sup> President of the United States of America, was duly elected a member in the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California (State No. 1721-L) while he was in the White House in 1929 by right of Jacob Wynne (Jacobus Winn) who served as a Private in Col. Johannes Snyder's Regiment, First Regiment, Ulster County Militia, New York.

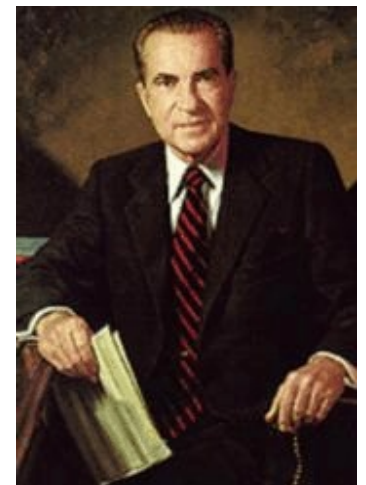


While attending Stanford University, Herbert Hoover fell in love and was married in the city of Monterey, Cal., on February 10, 1899, to Lou, the daughter of Charles Delano Henry, a banker, and his wife Florence (da Weed) Henry.

Herbert Hoover, beaten by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932 and left office under a cloud and his name was linked with every ill feature of the depression. Victimized, still most of his countrymen, including Roosevelt, respected him. When he died in 1964, like Ford, he had ceased to be the cause of the depression but not quite a national hero. His brother, Theodore J. Hoover, Dean of the School of Engineering at Stanford University, was also a member (State No. 722-L).

Besides their love of California, former Presidents Ford and Hoover shared many things in common. Chief among them was their family backgrounds. According to both Gary Boyd Roberts and *Burke's Peerage*, they were cousins — not just once but twice.

Interesting enough, through his mother, President Hoover was an eighth cousin once removed of another California President — former President Richard Milhous Nixon, 37<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America — another of this state's presidents (although not a member).



It just goes to show how one's ancestry may connect you to history.

# John Austin Stevens - Founder



John Austin Stevens, founder of the Sons of the Revolution, was the grandson of Ebenezer Stevens. Ebenezer participated in the Boston Tea Party as a young man and rose through the ranks to lieutenant colonel in the artillery. He fought in many battles and witnessed both major British surrenders, at Saratoga and Yorktown. Colonel Stevens was one of the Military escorts of General Washington on his triumphal entry into New York City on the day of the British Evacuation, November 25, 1783. At wars end, Colonel Stevens was one of the founding members of the Society of Cincinnati, and served in 1799 as a “pall bearer” during the New York memorial service following Washington's death and burial in Virginia.

John was born on January 21, 1827. At the age of 15, he entered Harvard and graduated in 1846 with a proficiency in mathematics, logic and literary

composition and thoroughly versed in English and Spanish literature. While attending college, Stevens went with his class to hear an impassioned speech by Daniel Webster at the site of the Battle of Bunker Hill. Stevens was deeply moved and considered honoring our patriot ancestors a duty that he pursued all the rest of his life.

John married Margaret Morris of a prominent New York family, and took an active role in civic and business life while building up a private library and studying the history of the Revolution. Through his father, a prominent banker, John met Salmon P. Chase, the future Treasury Secretary, and many other prominent people from New York, Philadelphia and Washington.

Throughout his life, Stevens took an active role in business, government, writing of U.S. history, and the founding of the Sons of the Revolution, serving as the organization's first president. He passed away on June 10, 1910. Funeral services were held on June 18, at his residence in Rhode Island, followed by services at St. Paul's Chapel in New York and a procession through the city by the Sons of the Revolution, Chamber of Commerce and Historical Society. The funeral procession being viewed by thousands, moved down Broadway on its way to Broad and Pearl where Fraunces Tavern was draped in black. The interment was in the family vault in Greenwood Cemetery, where his Revolutionary ancestor lies.

**Members are encouraged to include  
the Sons of the Revolution in their  
Annual Giving and Estate Planning**

*Help Secure the Future as we  
Preserve the History of the Past*

**Sons of the Revolution  
Library and Museum**

# The Gift of History

History is the account of things said and done in the past. In this sense, each of us has a history — an account of where we come from and how we got to be who we are. Societies likewise, each have a history. So, too, do nations, families, and human groups of every sort. History can serve us in many ways. It can inspire us with stories of exemplary lives or caution us with tales of human folly and wickedness. History can inform and educate us by providing the context and perspective that allow us to make thoughtful decisions about the future. And history has the power to delight and enrich us, enlarging and intensifying the experience of being alive.

## Phase IV of the Library & Museum Modernization Project Completed

Following the renovation of the second floor in 2003, the next phase of the project was undertaken in 2005 and completed in 2006. This phase of the project included the installation of a new climate control unit needed for the preservation of the Library and Museum’s collections. At a cost to the Society of only \$21,226, as opposed to the \$35,000 bid, thanks to the generous “in-kind” donation of Mr. Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., this project included the replacement of the 30-year-old HVAC system and installation of two independently operated energy efficient (SEER-12 rated) heating and air conditioning units, as well as a new gas line, duct work, several new distribution vents and a significant upgrade in the electrical system. Additionally, new exhaust fans and insulation were also installed. In the first two billing cycles since its installation, the utility expense decreased by 52 percent, or a savings of \$1,500 over the same period of the previous year. Another “in-kind” donation from Mr. Breithaupt allowed the Society to completely renovate the Board Room. Upon completion of the Board Room, the upstairs area was completely carpeted and end plates were installed on the shelving units. Funding for this portion of the project was also provided as a gift from a member of the Society.

# Society Welcomes Members

**Allan Kendall Walker** - 3381 - Alexander Walker; who served in the War for Independence as a both a Private and Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Militia.

**Douglas Richard Boyd, Jr.** - 3382 - Israel Barrett; who served as a Private in the 8th Regiment, Massachusetts Continental Line.

**Howard McDowell Peters** - 3383 - Christian Nestlerode; who served as a Private in the 4th Battalion of Pennsylvania Militia.

**Christopher Darrell Huss** - 3384 - George Alexander; who served as a Captain, Major and Colonel in the North Carolina Militia.

**Nishan Ohannes Partamian** - 3385 - Jonathan Tyler Jr.; who served as a Private in a company raised to service in the Continental Line from the Massachusetts militia.

**Kenneth Howard Lynch** - 3386- Sylvanus Hulet; who served as a Private in the 12th Regiment, Massachusetts.

**George Dexter Ball** - 3388 - William Gilreath; who served as both Private and Captain in the South Carolina Militia.

**Scott Edwin Tracy** - 3390 - Thomas Tracy; who served as a Private in the Vermont Militia.

**Carl Edward Sperry** - 3391 - Samuel Newton; who served as a Lieutenant in the 2d Regiment of Connecticut Militia.

**Jay Allen Richardson** - 3392 - William Spivey; who served as a Private in the North Carolina Continental Line.

**Mark John Tracy** - 3393 - Thomas Tracy; who served as a Private in the Vermont Militia.

**Joseph Robert Tracy** - 3394 - Thomas Tracy; who served as a Private in the Vermont Militia.

**David Anthony Wilson** - 3395 - Edward Door; who served as a Private in the Massachusetts Militia, 1775-1799.

**Christopher James Robertson** - 3396 - William Maxwell; who served as a Private in the 2d Regiment, Massachusetts.

## Membership

(Effective January 17, 2007)

**Membership queries are welcomed,  
enclosing a curriculum vitae, directed to  
the Membership Committee**

<b>Annual</b> .....	<b>\$75</b>
<b>Life</b> .....	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Junior</b> .....	<b>\$1,000</b>

# Washington and the Braddock Campaign

Edward Braddock was born ca. 1695 in Perthshire, Scotland, the eldest son of Major General Edward Braddock (d. 1725). At the age of fifteen years he entered the Coldstream Guards. For the next 43 years he would establish himself in that regiment. As a lieutenant-colonel, in 1747, he served under the Prince of Orange in Holland during the siege of Bergen-op-Zoom. In 1753 he was given the colonelcy of the 14th Foot, and distinguished himself in many battles and, in the process, developed a reputation as a stern disciplinarian. He also proved himself a master tactician.



In 1754, Braddock was promoted to Major General. When Great Britain prepared to remove France from the American West a year later, the natural choice for the position of Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America was Major General Edward Braddock.

Braddock arrived in America in February 1755. At Williamsburg he set about training and drilling his men. His preparations were hampered from the start by inadequate funds, improper transport, and slow-to-arrive provisions.

Braddock had been promised the aid of friendly Chickasaw Indians who failed to show. To Braddock this was fine, he simply would count on his own professional soldiers to do the job and certainly didn't need the help of some uncivilized savages to beat the French.

Braddock was also disdainful of offers of aid made by the colonists and frontiersmen. In fact, when Braddock was warned by Benjamin Franklin that the Indian allies of the French should not be so disregarded. The General's reply was, "*These savages may, indeed, be a formidable enemy to your raw American militia, but upon the King's regular and disciplined troops, sir, it is impossible that they should make such an impression.*" Such an attitude was to cost him dearly.

Braddock set his sights on Fort Duquesne, a fort that was garrisoned by about 600 French regulars and about 800 Chippewa Indians. General Braddock was over confident with his 1,400 trained British regulars. Nevertheless, he begrudgingly accepted the support of 450 Virginia militiamen. Among them were his aide-de-camp Lieutenant Colonel George Washington and a 21-year-old civilian teamster by the name of Daniel Boone.

The campaign began with Braddock's 300 axemen cutting a road westward from Fort Cumberland towards Fort Dunquesne. The march was slow going. After eight days they had only traveled 30 miles. Growing impatient, Braddock decided to split his forces, leaving 100 men behind with the slow moving wagons. The rest of the men moved ahead.

On July 7th the advance party reached Turtle Creek, eight miles south of Fort Duquesne. After crossing the Monongahela River, Braddock continued the march along a rough track of land that lead to the fort. Meanwhile the French, under the command of Captain Hyacinth de Beaujeu, with 250 French-Canadian Troops, accompanied by 6,750 Indians, he set out to intercept Braddock on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Golden State Patriot

Unknown to Braddock, these interceptors positioned themselves all along both sides of the trail. Suddenly, without warning, a massive barrage of fire power broke out all along the 2,000 yard column of British soldiers, marching in traditional form. As the men around them fell, the perplexed Britishers could see no enemy. Despite wheeling around cannon, the English were unable to attack an enemy they couldn't see.



A few of the British regulars made moves to follow their Virginia fellows and leave the ranks to fight in Indian fashion in the woods, but Braddock drove these “cowards” back into formation, ordering them to “stand and fight.”

*“...the front was attacked; and by the unusual halloing and whooping of the enemy, whom they could not see, were so disconcerted and confused as soon to fall into irretrievable disorder. The rear was forced forward to support them, but seeing no enemy, and themselves falling every moment from the fire, a general panic took place among the troops, from which no exertions of the officers could recover them.”*

George Washington

Braddock himself tried to rally the advance guard. As panic began to set in, Braddock had four horses shot out from under him, and then a fifth. He then suffered a wound in the arm, followed by another in the chest. Suddenly, General Braddock, mortally wounded, fell to the ground coughing blood as George Washington was now forced to assume command.



But not even Washington could rally the men. The men broke into a disorderly retreat – a run for their very lives. There was nothing that the few remaining officers could do to halt the panic. Finally, even the officers realized that if they remained they would become prey of the savages lurking just beyond the smoke covered tree line.



## Golden State Patriot

The encounter was a massive blow. Of Braddock's 89 officers, 63 were dead. And of the 1,373 regular troops engaged in the battle only 459 escaped without being killed or wounded. General Braddock had, indeed, paid dearly for his arrogance. Even Washington, during this battle, would have two horses killed from under him and four bullet holes through his uniform.

The Virginia militia was about the only force remaining on the field, suffering severe casualties, did its best to cover the retreating British regulars. George Washington and a few others managed to get General Braddock into a small cart as they began their retreat. Those who remained did their best to help the wounded in an orderly retreat.



George Washington, in a letter to Governor Dinwiddie, dated July 18, 1755, reported:

*“Our poor Virginians behaved like men and died like soldiers, for I believe that out of three companies that were there that day scarce 30 were left alive.”*

Four days after the battle, on the evening of July 12th, as the British troops were preparing to depart for Fort Cumberland from Dunbar's camp near Jumonville Glen, General Edward Braddock died of his wounds. His last words were, *“Who would have thought it possible?”* Murmuring, *“We shall know better how to deal with them another time!”* Apparently, forgetting the several words of warning given to him weeks before by Franklin and Washington.

Washington had Braddock buried in an unmarked grave on the trail on which they were attacked. Early the next morning, before the army broke camp, George Washington conducted the burial service and the General was laid to rest. Then he ordered the wagons to be driven back and forth over the grave to ensure that the Indians would not find and desecrate it.

Before his death, realizing that he was dying, General Edward Braddock as a token of his affection and gratitude, bequeathed to George Washington his servant and his favorite horse. Upon the horse was a saddle and a leopard skin saddle pad – now on display in the Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum.



### LIBRARY HOURS

Wednesdays	By Appointment Only
Friday and Saturdays	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ANNE COE  
Librarian

600 South Central Avenue, Glendale CA  
(818) 240-1775

*Volunteer Assistance Welcomed.*





**State Officers**

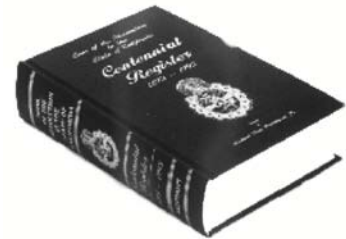
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Charles B. Witt, Jr., MD

**Centennial Register**



In 1995 the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California published its *Centennial Register*. This marvelous book contains a detailed history of the Society, origins of the General Society, biographies of its Presidents and early prominent members, and a listing of all of the members admitted to the California Society during its first 100 years, including Revolutionary War service for each of the 4,000 plus qualifying ancestors. There are only a few remaining copies left. The *Centennial Register* may be purchased by sending a check for \$54 (includes tax, shipping and handling) to:

**Centennial Register  
 Sons of the Revolution  
 600 South Central Avenue  
 Glendale, California 91204-2009.**

**Meeting Schedule for 2007**

21 April 2007 ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
 21 April 2007 ..... Patriot’s Day (Lexington & Concord) Luncheon  
 21 April 2007 ..... Friends of the Library & Museum Meeting  
 16 June 2007 ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
 4 July 2007 ..... Let Freedom Ring National Bell Ringing Ceremony  
 7 July 2007 ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
 7 July 2007 ..... Independence Day Luncheon  
 18 August 2007 ..... Friends of the Library & Museum Meeting  
 13 October 2007 ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
 13 October 2007 ..... Saratoga & Yorktown Luncheon  
 17 January 2007 ..... Board of Directors Meeting

Location for all Membership Luncheons will be announced. Society’s Dress Code will be enforced. All Board of Directors Meetings convene at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Sons of the Revolution Headquarters Building. Friends of the Library & Museum Meetings convene at 2:30 p.m. in the Sons of the Revolution Headquarters.

# One Family's Record of Service and Sacrifice

The 1st Marine Division had made their home in a dusty walled compound dubbed "Camp Hurricane," along the Euphrates River, when they were ordered to move in on Fallujah and Ramadi. The 2d Battalion, which calls itself "Second to None," had been tasked with quelling one of the most resistive towns in Iraq, a mission which led to some of the heaviest combat since the war began. Before the battle to retake the terrorist haven of Fallujah opened in the first weeks of November 2004, some of the fiercest fighting had actually taken place in April, both in Fallujah and Ar-Ramadi, capital of the Anbar Province in the Sunni Triangle region west of Baghdad. It is in Anbar Province where most of our American soldiers have been killed or wounded. Among them was our Society's own Allan Kendall Walker (SR No. 3381).



On April 6, the day Walker died, he was among 10 Marines killed and two others who died from wounds in the two days that followed. Staff Sgt. Walker, a career NCO, had accompanied 2nd Lt. John T. Wroblewski (also killed) in leading a convoy to rescue embattled Marines from Golf Company who were pinned down. An insurgent ambush laid with a murderous crossfire of rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine-gun fire nearly wiped out the rescue convoy. Echo Company, Walker's unit, was the company within the battalion that suffered highest casualties as they came to the aid of their fellow Marines. The ambush was recounted by embedded newsman David Swanson and military columnist Joseph Galloway, who wrote a detailed account of the attack.

At 28, Staff Sgt. Allan K. Walker was the oldest and one of the most senior NCOs of Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Marine Expeditionary Force based at Camp Pendleton.<sup>4</sup> A former drill instructor, standing 6'-2" and 240 lbs, he

had earned the nickname "the Beast" from his recruits.

Raised in Palmdale, he graduated from Highland High School in 1993 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on November 15, 1994. He was an athlete, errant scholar, lover of poetry and an outstanding trainer of fighting men.

Allan was killed just three days before he would have celebrated his 29<sup>th</sup> birthday. Funeral services were held on April 17, 2004, at the Lancaster Presbyterian Church.

His awards included the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and Marine Corps Drill Instructor Ribbon. Staff Sgt. Walker, was also awarded the Purple Heart, the nation's oldest decoration, struck for blood shed in combat, and was buried with full military honors on

April 19, 2004, at the Los Angeles National Cemetery.

Allan Kendall Walker (SR No. 3381) was a member of the Society by right of decent from Lieutenant Alexander Walker, who had enlisted as a private on July 12, 1776; commissioned a Lieutenant on June 18, 1777; and promoted to 2d Lieutenant on April 14, 1778, serving throughout the war in the Chester County Militia of Pennsylvania. Descending from no less than 15 other Revolutionary War patriots, it is no wonder why Allan had such an intense interest in Military history. He read copious volumes of Civil War history, having three direct ancestors who served in that war, including being a grand-nephew of Albert Noel Collins (SR No. 305) and a great-great grandson of Hugh Kelso Walker (SR No. 606), this Society's former Chaplain and a national leader of the Presbyterian Church.

Following Allan's death, his father, Kenneth Rogers Walker (SR No. 3318), joined the California State Military Reserve where he helps to train deploying California National Guardsmen.

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Echo Company, an infantry company, is composed of about 150 men; a battalion, the larger organization, has approximately 900-1,000 men, and a division numbers up to nearly five figures.

# American Association for State and Local History Honors California Society

This past July, 2006, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) announced that the Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum had been nominated and selected as a 2006 Award of Merit winner by the Leadership in History Awards Committee. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 61st year, is one of this nation's most prestigious forms of recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. The Sons of the Revolution was selected for its Catalog Modernization and Collection Organization Project.

From its headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee, the AASLH sponsors regional and national training workshops, publishes books, technical publications, a quarterly magazine, and monthly newsletter as well as providing leadership, service, and support for its members who preserve and interpret state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful in American society. The Leadership in History Awards honor significant achievement in the field of local history, and brings public recognition to organizations that contribute to this arena. The AASLH Awards Program was initiated in 1945 to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout North America.

The Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum was honored at a special banquet held during the 2006 AASLH Annual Meeting held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona, on Saturday, September 16, 2006. A delegation consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Breithaupt, Sr., Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., Judge and Mrs. William W. Huss, Jr., Messrs. Brett A. MacDonald, and Wayne Rogers represented the Society at the prestigious awards banquet underwritten by The History Channel. Also attending the banquet was Mr. Paul Davis of Phoenix, the newly elected General President of the Sons of the Revolution.

## Our Proud Heritage

### Insignia.

The insignia of the Sons of the Revolution is a badge elliptical in form, with scalloped edges, one and one-quarter inches in length, and one and one-eighth inches in width; the whole surmounted by a gold eagle, with wings displayed, inverted; on the obverse side a medallion of gold in the center elliptical in form, bearing on its face the figure of a soldier in Continental uniform, with musket slung; beneath the figures 1775; the badge is surrounded by thirteen raised gold stars of five points each upon a border of dark blue enamel. On the reverse side, in the center, corresponding in form to that on the obverse, and also in gold, bearing on its face the Houdon portrait of Washington in bas-relief, encircled by the legend, "Sons of the Revolution"; beneath, the figures 1883; surrounded by a plain gold border, conforming in dimensions to the obverse.

### Motto.

The motto of the Society is "*exegi monumentum aere perennius*", meaning "I have erected a monument more lasting than bronze." (Horace)



## George Washington Birthday Commemorative Church Service

As it has done annually since the early 1920s, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California held its 84<sup>th</sup> Annual George Washington Birthday Commemorative Church Service in honor of the Father of our Country. The Commemorative Service was founded by the Rt. Rev. William Bertrand Stevens, Episcopal Bishop of Los Angeles and a longtime Chaplain of the California Society. This year, the service was again held at the Episcopal Cathedral Center of St. Paul in Los Angeles. This special service honored the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of George Washington who led our armies during the War of Independence. Society President Mark J. Denger was accompanied by two of this Society's President Emeritus, Judge William W. Huss, Jr., and Charles B. Witt, Jr., M.D. Dr. Witt is a former President of the National Society of Washington Family Descendants. President Denger spoke on California's contribution to the War of Independence.

### Noted Historian To Be Featured Speaker



We are once again honored to have secured noted historian Roger D. McGrath, Ph.D., as the featured speaker for this year's Patriots Day Luncheon. A former professor of American history, Dr. McGrath is also a Major commanding a history unit in the California Center for Military History. He is the

author and/or co-author of several books, and has written numerous articles which have appeared in such diverse publications as the *American Guardian*, *Chronicles Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Pacific Historical Review*, *Arizona and the West*, *Montana*, *Irish America Magazine*, *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, and the *Daily News*. In addition to his lectures and writings, Dr. McGrath appears regularly on the History Channel and has been featured in several documentaries that have aired on A&E, Military History Channel, History Channel, Discovery Channel, and TNT, including the Emmy Award winning series *Save our History*.

### About the Cover



This dramatic painting by Edwin E. Deming depicts the fatal shooting of Maj. Gen. Edward Braddock during the ill-fated expedition of 1755. It was reported that as he lay dying during the retreat, "he could not bear the sight of a red coat" but was heard to murmur praises of the "blues" (Virginia's militia). According to Washington's own account of the event, the British officers "behaved with incomparable bravery"; the Virginia companies behaved like men and soldiers; but the English soldiers' "dastardly behavior" and cowardice "exposed all those who were inclined to do their duty to almost certain death."



The Sons of the Revolution Library and Museum is indeed blessed with one of the few surviving artifacts from this historic event – the original Braddock-Washington Leopard Skin Saddle Pad on display in the Washington Parlor which, along with his horse and servant, was gift to a young militia Lieutenant Colonel George Washington for his bravery under fire.