



# Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

June 2009

Editor Jim Blauer

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## MEETING INFORMATION

When: June 13, 2009

Where: The Sizzler Restaurant  
1401 North Harbor Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA

Time: Set up and Social begins at 11:00am

Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30am

Website: [www.orangecountysar.org](http://www.orangecountysar.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the desert to the sea and everywhere in between, a hardy salutation to all Compatriots of the Orange County Chapter. If you were not at the May Meeting, you really missed a great performance by Daniel Slosberg, alias "Pierre Cazatte". With his fiddle, his voice and assorted folk instruments of the Lewis & Clark time period, he dazzled the audience with his enthusiastic energy. He did everything but jump up onto the tables and swing from the chandelier. A standing ovation for Daniel Slosberg.

Our Lee's Legion Color Guard marched in the Strawberry Festival Parade on May 23rd, and also participated in the Memorial Day Service at the Old Santa Ana Cemetery on May 25th. A very busy weekend for Jim Blauer, Kent Gregory and Jim Fosdyck.

Our Registrar Kent Gregory reports that three new members were approved on May 5th and have been added to our chapter. Paul F. Moore, retired teacher, descendant of John Deramus, a Private in Captain Jacob Rumph's Company, South Carolina Militia; Paul A. Moore, U.S. Army in Iraq, also a descendant of John Deramus; Neil D. Stenton, retired O.C. Inspector of Weights & Measures, descendant of Ichabod Packard, a Private in Captain Robert Orr's Company, Col. John Bailey's Massachusetts Regiment. We warmly welcome all three of these new members and are looking forward to meeting them and having them inducted at an upcoming meeting.

For all those who have been waiting to participate in the Flag Certificate Program, your wait is over. Contact Jim Fosdyck for details on how you can earn the very handsome SAR Flag Certificate.

Our sincerest Condolences to the Fosdyck Family on the passing of their son

and compatriot Wesley James Fosdyck on early Sunday Morning, April 26th. The family wishes to thank everyone of you for your cards, your friendship, and your prayers during this time of their loss. The black mourning cloth will drape the charter at our June meeting in memory of Wesley.

Some details on the USS Lane Victory cruise have changed. Instead of making advanced reservations, we will just show up on August 15th and make payment at the boarding area. The cost will be \$100-\$125 depending on the number of people going. It will set sail at 8am and return at 4pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. 50% of the cost of this excursion is tax deductible. This will be a joint event with the Harbor SAR Chapter and anyone else who wants to come. There could be some possible changes between now and August 15th. Contact Harbor chapter President Jim Olds at (310) 732-3562 or e-mail him at [jolds@portla.org](mailto:jolds@portla.org) for any updated information.

For those of you with a hint of green blarney in your blood, the annual Irish Fair is coming to town June 21-22 at the Irvine Meadows Fairground, next to the Verizon wireless Amphitheater. Hours will be 10am to 7pm both days. For further information go to [www.irishfair.org](http://www.irishfair.org).

A reminder that the highlight of the Summer, our Annual Orange County Chapter Barbecue, will be held on August 1 at the home of John & Karen Dodd. Try to make it if you can. There are many members from various chapters who attend this event, and the fellowship, hospitality and food are superb. For further information you can contact John at (714) 602-2132 or e-mail him at [johnldodd@earthlink.net](mailto:johnldodd@earthlink.net).

Our speaker this month will be lock expert George Hill. Join us on June 13th as we become eyewitnesses to George Hill as he unlocks them for

us the history of colonial locksmithing.

I leave you with some words by Abraham Lincoln concerning his thoughts on George Washington. On the 110th anniversary of Washington's birth, February 22, 1842, Lincoln was invited to speak at the Washington Temperance Society. The following is a short excerpt of that speech.

"On that name, an eulogy is expected. It cannot be. To add brightness to the sun or glory to the name of Washington, is alike impossible. Let none attempt it. In solemn awe we pronounce the name, and in its naked deathless splendor, leave it shining on."  
Wishing you a very happy Summer.

David R. Siler

#### GEORGE HILL, SPEAKER

George Hill is a locksmith who grew up in Los Angeles. At an early age, being an inquisitive child, he would frequently take apart his toys to see how they were made. One day, his father came across a large box of unusual padlocks, most without keys. His father bet George that he couldn't open the locks, and agreed to give George one dollar for every lock he opened. Later that day, Mr. Hill owed his son over \$20. The lock collection grew from there. George started collecting locks wherever he could find them. Around abandoned buildings, along railroad tracks, swap meets, antique stores, and from friends. George's father had a friend who was a retired railroad blacksmith, John Beach. Mr. Beach taught George how to make keys for his growing collection. He also taught George how to fabricate keys using older techniques, different from the ones used for more current pin tumbler locks. George's father encouraged him to continue his collecting.

Backed by his father's checkbook, George wrote to the Mayors of cities in the United States with populations over 100,000 people and asked the

Mayors for a "Key to the City" to further his collection. He would send a \$10.00 check to cover expenses and postage. He has accumulated the largest collection of "Keys to the City" on record. He was soon writing to mayors of many international cities for their keys. He also acquired a large lock, handcuff and restraint collection from a friend who passed away, Mr. Robert "Bob" Auburn.

In 1975 George was on the cover of National Star Magazine. The caption read: "Boy Has Key To Success". After graduating from Inglewood High School in 1976, he and his brother Mike opened Hill Brothers' Lock & Safe in Garden Grove. In the rear of the building they created the Lock Museum of Orange County. His collection was used as the backdrop in the 2003 movie "The Italian Job", starring Charlize Theron who played a specialized locksmith and safecracker.

In December 2005, "Modern Marvels", a history Channel Series used George in the "More Hardware" program to describe the history of locks, from wood pin tumbler locks first invented by the Egyptians, to the first patented pin tumbler lock, patented by Linus Yale in the 1860s. George sold Hill Brothers' Lock and Safe in 2007 after 31 years in the business and is currently designing tools and locksmith supplies for his company, Keedex, Inc., located in Placentia, California.

#### EAGLE SCOUT TO BE HONORED

At our June meeting Eagle Scout Kevin Griffith will be recognized as our chapter winner in the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest. Kevin earned 31 merit badges enroute to his Eagle. We will have him read his essay and present him with his participation patch and his medal for being the chapter winner.

As the chapter winner, Kevin's application was forwarded to the State Chairman Shawn Price for judging at the State level of the competition. Kevin came in third at state.

Those of you who are Eagle Scouts are encouraged to wear your Eagle Scout medal to this meeting.

#### MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES

Many of our members are able to get out and honor those men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice, so that we can live here in this free country of ours.

On Friday May 22, Jim Blauer attended his alma mater, Newport Harbor High School in Newport Beach. Dressed in his Lee's Legion uniform, Jim was once again asked to sing the National Anthem as he has done for several years now. There was a good gathering of students who were released from class to attend this service which recognizes those alumni who have died in the service of our country, There are currently 37 names on that roll. The most recent is Jose Angel Garibay who was killed in Iraq in 2003.

On March 25 your chapter gave a good showing at the Old Santa Ana Cemetery in Santa Ana for the Tri-City Memorial Service. Jim Blauer, Kent Gregory and Jim Fosdyck led the way by presenting our chapter colors and laying a wreath with other veteran and hereditary societies. Also in attendance at this service were; Un Hui Fosdyck, Lisa Gregory, Supervisor Bill Campbell who was one of the speakers, David & James Siler, John, Karen and Lacey Dodd, George Willey, Jon Vreeland and Charles Beal, his wife and mother,.

That same day Compatriot Lou Carlson was conducting the service across the way at Fairhaven Memorial Park. This event was attended by David

& James Siler, John, Karen & Lacy Dodd, and Jim & Un Hui Fosdyck.

If any of our members and their families attended any services for Memorial Day, send a report to Jim Blauer at [jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net) so that he can record them for our activities.

### PARADES

On Saturday May 23 your color Guard of Jim Blauer, Kent Gregory and Jim Fosdyck carried the chapter flags in the Strawberry Festival Parade in Garden Grove. Un Hui Fosdyck led our group carrying the chapter banner. Jim Blauer carried the American Flag, Kent Gregory carried the SAR Flag and Jim Fosdyck carried the Lee's Legion Flag.

The distance of this parade is somewhere between that of the Laguna Beach Patriot's Day Parade and the Huntington Beach July 4th Parade. There was a good crowd along the route with several announcements. Jim Fosdyck reported that it was shown on Garden Grove local cable channel and Kent Gregory reported that it was shown on a Korean Cable channel 44-4.

On the Huntington Beach Parade we are waiting to hear from them. This year in an effort to reduce the size of the parade they have instituted a fee for non profit groups of \$300, and \$1,000 for those with floats. Upon contacting Pageantry Productions we were told to send in our application without the fee and a committee reviews all applicants once a week and decides if they will waive any fees. If the fees are waived we will make our 22 appearance in this event. If not we won't.

### SONS & DAUGHTERS OF THE PILGRIMS GETS NEW BRANCH GOVERNOR

Compatriot Jim Blauer as many of you may know is a member of several hereditary societies. One of

these groups is the Sons & Daughters of the Pilgrims. Unlike the Mayflower Society where you must have a direct line to a passenger on the Mayflower in 1620, the Sons & Daughter of the Pilgrims eligibility is "Any person of good character, having attained the age of 18 years, endorsed by two members of the Society, may obtain membership by submitting an application showing lineal descent from any 17th century immigrant to the American Colonies, provided the application wins the approval of the society's Registrar General". This means if you have an ancestor who came over to the American colonies in the 1600s you are eligible to join.

Jim Joined back in 1995 and eventually took on the job as the Southern California Branch's Secretary at the prodding of the Founding Governor Lee Bishop. In 2008 after some 20 years as Southern California Branch Governor Lee Bishop stepped down. Ron Yielding took over as the new Governor of the branch in 2008. In March of this year Ron passed away.

Normally as things go Deputy Governor Ron Lotz would have become Governor, but he did not want the job. An e-mail was sent out concerning this situation and Compatriot Blauer, not wanting to see the Southern California Branch absorbed by the California Branch from the North, threw his hat into the ring. It was reported to him in May that he had been overwhelmingly approved to be the Governor of the Southern California Branch by its members.

Jim will be attending the joint meeting of the Sons & Daughters with the California Society of Colonial Wars, The California Society of the War of 1812, Flagon & Trencher, the Sons of Liberty Chapter SAR and First Families of Maryland on May 30 at the LA Athletic Club.

If you think you might be interested in joining this

group, contact Jim at [jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net) or (949) 548-6871 and he will get you in touch with the Branch Registrar to get you started on your paperwork.

Congratulations Jim on your new position.

### CHARLES BEAL

Charles was born in Orange, California on March 31. He grew up in Santa Ana and attended Santiago High School in Garden Grove. After graduating from high school he served three years in the U. S. Army as a Military Policeman stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey and Mieasu, Germany. Upon discharge, he started attending Santa Ana College and was employed by the County of Orange as a deputy sheriff for four years. He next worked for Security Pacific National Bank in their corporate Security Division until being laid off due to budget cuts.

Changing professions, Charles became a land surveyor, employed by the County of Orange for the past 21 years. He received his State Land Surveying License in 2006 and currently holds the position of Senior Land Surveyor in the Geodetic Control and Public Services for Goematics/Land Information Systems Division.

Charles has degrees from Santa Ana College/ Rancho Santiago College in Administration Justice, Business Administration and Surveying & Mapping. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University at Fullerton in Criminal Justice.

Charles met Diane Watson and they were married on February 14, 1986. They have one son Douglas who is a sophomore in high school.

Charles currently has 20 approved SAR lines. He is the recipient of the SAR Military Service and Law Enforcement Medals along with an SAR Certificate of Distinguished Service for his work in

locating the Civil War Veteran graves in Orange County. His graves project is available on the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society web site at <http://www.santaanahistory.com/article/civil-war.html>.

### FRAUNCES TAVERN

Colonel Steven Van Cortlandt upon deciding to retire to his mansion on the Hudson, gave the property on which Fraunces Tavern would be built to Etienne DeLancey in 1700. A French Huguenot, DeLancey had married Cortlandt's daughter Anne. Fraunces Tavern was built in 1719, as a home. DeLancey used small yellow bricks that were imported from Holland. In 1762 DeLancey's heirs sold the house to Samuel Fraunces(1722-1795). He was a merchant of French-West Indian ancestry. He converted the building into the "Queen's Head Tavern". Named in honor of Queen Charlotte.

His tavern was frequented by New York City's elite and in 1768 these patrons established the first New York City Chamber of Commerce at Fraunces Tavern.

In 1765 a British Captain tried to unload tea in New York City. He was forced to give a public apology at Frances Tavern.



December 4, 1907, a restored Fraunces Tavern is unveiled. The snow you see sits on the very same roof that covers the building today. After 102 years of service it urgently needs replacing.

By 1774 the Sons of Liberty and other organizations frequently used the tavern in an effort to mobilize support for the Revolution.

In August 1775 patriots were able to commandeer the British cannons from a Battery at the tip of Manhattan and exchanged fire with the British HMS Asia. The British retaliated with their own 32 cannon broadside on the city that sent a cannon ball through the tavern roof.

George Washington was a frequent patron of Frances Tavern. When the British evacuated New York, Washington and other officers held their "Victory Party" here. In 1783 he gave his farewell message to these officers before leaving for his beloved Mount Vernon and the life of a farmer. Six years later he would return to celebrate his inauguration as the first President of the United States under the newly approved Constitution. Samuel Fraunces sold the tavern in 1785 and when Washington became President in 1789 Samuel Fraunces was made Washington's Executive Steward.

During the War it was a meeting place for patriots. From April to November of 1783 it became the home to the "**Board of Inquiry**" meetings. A procedure had been agreed upon by General Washington and British Commander Sir Guy Carleton that no "American property" (meaning former slaves emancipated by the British in return for military service) be allowed to leave with British forces. Meetings were conducted every Wednesday during these months to review the paper credentials and oral history given by freed Blacks. British representatives were successful in ensuring that all but a handful of the thousands of Loyalist Blacks, then in New York, were prevented from being returned to slavery.

After the War it would house the offices of the



The Sons of the Revolution was organized at Fraunces Tavern in 1883. Here an early group of members meets in the Long Room in 1893.

Continental Congress. With the ratification of the Constitution it became the home to several government agencies, including; departments of Foreign Affairs(State), Treasury and War.

Once Philadelphia became the nation's capital the importance of the tavern faded. In 1832 a series of fires altered the appearance of the tavern.

It was at this tavern that the Sons of the Revolution was founded in 1883. In 1900 the owner threatened to demolish the building. It was in 1904 after a lengthy battle between the City of New York and the owner that the Sons of the Revolution purchased the tavern. They were able to restore the building and converted it into a museum in 1907 under the supervision of William Mesereau.

In 1965 Fraunces Tavern was designated a Historic Landmark in New York City. It was designated a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

On January 24, 1975 a bomb exploded in the building killing four and injuring another 50 people. The Puerto Rican nationalists group FALN claimed responsibility, though no one was ever prosecuted.

#### WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

It was on December 4, 1783, just nine days after the British had left American Soil that General George Washington invited his officers from the Continental

Army to join him in the Long Room at Fraunces Tavern for the purpose of saying farewell.

Colonel Benjamin Talmadge's Memoirs of 1830 describe the scene best.

"The time now drew near when General Washington 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 General Washington intended to commence his journey on that day.

At 12 o'clock the officers repaired to Fraunces Tavern on Pearl Street where Washington had appointed to meet them and to take his leave of them. We had been assembled but a few moments when his excellency entered the room. His emotions were too strong to be concealed which seemed to be reciprocated by every officer present. After partaking of a slight refreshment in almost breathless silence the General filled his glass with wine and turning to the officers 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, General 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.' General Knox being nearest to him, turned to the Commander-in-Chief who, suffused in 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 and parted with his general in chief. Such a scene of sorrow and weeping I had never before witnessed and fondly hope I may never be called to witness again."

As the day came to a close, Washington as he left, turned and took one final salute from the assemblage. He then set out for Annapolis where Congress was in session. Escorted to Whitehall Wharf, he began this pleasurable journey by taking a barge across to Paulus Hook (Jersey City), New Jersey, where he stopped at Trenton briefly before heading on to Philadelphia and then to Annapolis. There was an outpouring of gratitude and affection from his fellow countrymen along the route. On December 22, having arrived in Annapolis, an elaborate dinner was held in his honor. Among the two hundred guests in attendance were the aristocracy of Annapolis and members of Congress. There were thirteen toasts given followed by the firing of 13 cannon, culminating with a ball at the State House.

It was on December 23, 1783 that Washington entered the State House Senate Chambers in Annapolis, Maryland. Eight years earlier when he was named Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army he had said at that time, "*I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with*". Now he was among Congressmen, Maryland dignitaries and a few Army officers who had all come to hear him speak.

Though the room was in total silence,



Washington's Farewell to his officers by Christopher Lawrence, 1876-1879.



Washington's voice was barely audible. He began by praising his officers and congratulating Congress. He had a short pause and then finished his 350 word speech saying, *"Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theater of action: and bidding an affectionate farewell to this august body under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take leave of all the employments of public life."*

Ah, wishful thinking on the General's part. in

three to four years he would be called first to the Annapolis Convention, where it was decided that a full blown convention of delegates from the thirteen colonies would be needed to amend the Articles of Confederation to make them more workable for all concerned.

Then during the Summer of 1787 he would be President of what became the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. The Constitution was approved by the convention on September 17 and sent to the States for ratification. Once ratified by the ninth state, New Hampshire, it went into effect.

With his election as the first President under this new Constitution, George Washington's retirement would be interrupted for another 8 years. It would be his leadership in civilian life that would place our country on a course to the future just as he had done in his military career.\*\*\*



General Henry Knox-Artillery Chief

Baron Von Steuiben  
Trainer of Troops



Benjamin Talmadge  
Espionage operator

Benjamin Lincoln  
Received British  
surrender at Yorktown



Israel Putnam was at the  
Battle of Bunker Hill

John Peter Muhlenberg  
Commanded Virginia's  
Eighth Regiment



Pictures of the officers here were obtained from *"George Washington's Unsung Heroes"* by Marc J. Stockwell-Moniz



# Photo Album

June 2009



Daniel Slosberg as Pierre Cazatte told us of his trip with Lewis & Clark on their expedition to the Pacific Ocean. He entertained us with music of the time on several different instruments they used on the trip. A map behind Daniel shows the area traversed by the expedition. Below left Daniel receives a Certificate of Appreciation from President David Siler.



At right State President and Chapter Compatriot Lou Carlson thanks and congratulates Rex Shannon on his masterful handling of all the details of the recent State Meeting the chapter hosted in Costa Mesa.



Your Lee's Legion of Light Dragoons of Virginia Color Guard was out at the Strawberry Festival Parade at left. Kent Gregory, Jim Blauer and Jim Fosdyck. At right Lisa & Kent Gregory, Jim Blauer and Jim & Un Hui Fosdyck attended the Memorial Day Service at the Old Santa Ana Cemetery. They presented their colors and laid a wreath at the Civil War Monument where the service was conducted.

