

MINUTEMAN

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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OCTOBER 2014



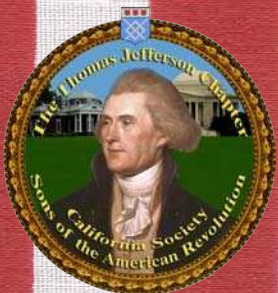
New Members Frederick Lorey and Joseph Zeiph inducted into SAR

President's Notes

A hearty welcome back to all – it was great to see everyone after a long warm (hot?) summer. I was especially gratified to see so many prospective members in attendance, and being able to welcome our two newest members. Hope to see you again at the upcoming meetings!

For those who were not able to make it, our own Alan Mode was the guest speaker at our September meeting. He talked about the communications resources that are available after a natural or man-made disaster; this was especially interesting given the recent Napa earthquake – it is a good reminder to plan ahead! Once the disaster hits, it is too late to do anything about it.

Most of our members have received the recent issue of the *SAR Magazine*, but I would like to expand on a couple of issues of interest to our membership that occurred at the 124th SAR Congress in South Carolina. The first was the passage of a motion to increase supplemental application fees from \$40 to \$60; as had been discussed in the past, the perception was that original patriot application fees were subsidizing the supplemental application fees, so ongoing discussions had been held to change the fee structure. Proposals had been made to increase the supplemental fees to the full \$80; this proposal failed and a compromise was reached wherein the supplemental fees were raised to \$60. Lastly (as Don Gurley had noted during our meeting), it will be necessary



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for others to step up and participate in various positions for 2015. Several elective positions are open (president, vice-president, historian, membership chair, and awards chair), and a number of committee positions are also open. Given that our current officers have been in their position for at least three years, I am encouraging the membership to step up and take a more active role in how your chapter is operated. Most of these positions take up relatively little time and most are somewhat seasonal – please give it some consideration so that we can be assured of your chapter continuing to thrive. Please give me or Don Gurley a call (or e-mail) if you are interested – but again, we do need folks to step up and take a more active role!

Our next meeting will be at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord on October 25; following that will be the Board of Managers meeting in Petaluma on November 7-8, and the chapter meeting (and elections) on December 6. Hope to see (and hear from) you soon!

— **Derek Brown, President**

Secretary's Notes

The Thomas Jefferson Chapter had 33 members and guests at its September 27, 2014 regular meeting at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord, California. President Derek Brown called the meeting to order, and introduced distinguished guests Alan and Jackie Mode, new members

Fred Lorey and Joe Zeiph (Annie, Sarah and Jocelyn Zeiph), and prospective members Kevin and Robert Auman (Diana Auman), Peter Day, Howard Nemir, Mike Flynn, Ryan Prindiville, Paul Shavor, and Mike Valentine. The DAR ladies introduced themselves.

Following lunch, Registrar Don Gurley inducted new member Frederick W. Lorey, the descendant of Private Jonathan Wheaton (1755-1828) of Connecticut. Jonathan is buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Millersburg, Ohio. Registrar Don Gurley also inducted new member Joseph W. Zeiph II, the descendant of Captain Josiah Hall (1744-1810) of New Jersey. Josiah is buried in the First Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Rockaway, New Jersey. President Brown recognized the efforts this summer of Registrar Gurley in bringing in many new members to the chapter.

President Brown introduced returning guest speaker Alan Mode, who was born in Gilroy, and grew up in Tacoma, Washington. Alan received his BA and PhD degrees in chemistry and an MBA in management. He joined Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1965 and worked in radiochemistry, the laser program, environmental sciences and counter-terrorism and incident response. He has held an amateur radio license for more than 20 years, and was responsible for amateur radio communications for the Livermore - Pleasanton Fire Department for more than a decade.

Compatriot Alan Mode spoke about the resources available for emergency communications following a natural or man-made

The Thomas Jefferson Chapter Minuteman is the official newsletter of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter, California Society Sons of the American Revolution. The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Chapter or the SAR, unless specifically stated.

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disaster. The August 24, 2014 Napa earthquake, although not a large earthquake, once again raised awareness of the potential for the “Big One.” A similar, moderate-sized earthquake could strike the Contra Costa County area through the Greenville fault, which is the next major concern. This fault runs in a general northwest/southeast direction, from an area east of Livermore, north to the Pittsburg/Antioch area, and it parallels the Concord/Green Valley fault near Clayton. As we learned from the aftermath of the recent Napa earthquake, we should keep in mind that our level of earthquake preparedness should be as complete as possible.

Most thought these days is given to structural safety, transportation, food, and gas/electrical utilities, while relatively little attention is given to communications, as most people assume that cell phone service will always be available; however, this is not the case. While a moderate earthquake may not result in significant damage to the communications infrastructure, the existing infrastructure can be overloaded by a large number of

users trying to use the system at the same time – many more than the existing system was designed to handle. This would result in a shutdown of the communications system.

There are several different types of emergency communications systems that should be used for communications after the fact (not during the event). First, **land lines** – these are the ubiquitous hard-wired telephones that have been found in residences and businesses for over 100 years and use much of the same basic technology as when they were first developed. Aside from their simplicity, the local telephone companies also provide the power via large batteries to operate the telephone system. If the local power went out, the hardwired telephone would still operate from the telephone company’s lines. However, an earthquake could still damage some of the telephone company’s infrastructure, thereby taking many of the land line-serviced phones out of service. In addition, Thomas Edison (who provided much input into the development of telephone systems) assumed that only about one subscriber in five would use the phone system at a time. Anything beyond that would result in an overload and shutdown of the phone system. One can see that, in an emergency, many more than one in five would be attempting to use the land lines at the same time. In this case, one should leave the phone “on the hook” unless absolutely necessary.

Second, **cell phones** – while the cell phones themselves contain their own power, the cells towers themselves are normally powered by the local power company. While many do have sufficient battery capacity or emergency generators to allow operation for possibly a day, they also suffer from limited capacity. They also suffer from infrastructure issues in that their towers may be adversely affected by an earthquake or large fire. As an example, the North Tower of the World Trade Center had the only cell towers in the area. After the attacks on September 11, the cellular systems were out of service for about 13 hours. Again, cell phones should only be used when absolutely necessary. Third, **other types of telephone systems** – including internet-based phones such as VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol); these phone systems use the Internet to carry telephone conversations. While these are separate from the classical hard-wired systems, one has to remember that they are powered from the local power company through computers and local routers. If the power goes out to those computers and routers, communications via those systems will also fail. Given that, one cannot depend on any Internet-based communications system in an emergency.

So, what can be done when it comes to emergency communications? Probably the simplest thing one can do is to look into the various inexpensive radio systems that are available these days. These include CB radios, FRS (Family Radio System), GMRS

(General Mobile Radio System) and Amateur Radio. While none of these will provide a comprehensive communications link to emergency agencies, they will allow individuals to communicate with each other on a more personal level. In general, CB radios are limited in their capabilities, and their use has declined over the years with more advanced communications systems becoming available. The FRS and GMRS systems are very inexpensive (around \$25 on up for each unit), but their communication distance is limited by the terrain. What may be advertised as having a 5-mile communications range may only be several hundred yards in an urban area, as the signals are blocked by vegetation and structures. Amateur Radio is probably one of the better modes of communication that is currently available for emergency situations, as there are radios available for nearly all bands, and they range in price from about \$40 to well over \$5,000. Of course, these expanded capabilities exact a toll in that a license is required to operate radios in the Amateur band. However, these licenses are easier to obtain than in the past, as proficiency in Morse code is no longer required. The exams are limited to theory and FCC rules/regulations, but the exam questions and answers are all published – so it's just a matter of studying and becoming familiar with the systems. At the higher frequencies, repeaters have been installed by radio clubs or individuals to help extend the range of these radios. At current count, there are over 2,000 repeaters in the San Francisco Bay Area, and over



20,000 repeaters in the US (with 4 in Concord alone).

Everyone should develop an emergency plan. Know where to meet, put together a 72-hour food supply package with water and prescription meds, along with a first aid kit, shelter supplies, and a portable AM/FM radio, preferably one that can operate from solar power as well as batteries. Also, identify an out-of-state contact with whom you can communicate. Often times, the local phone lines are overloaded in an emergency, but the long distance lines may be available.

Vehicles are a good energy resource – if kept fueled. They can provide heat and physical protection, as well as an AM/FM radio. As a reminder, KCBS (AM 740 KHZ) is the local emergency broadcast station to which you should tune to receive any emergency-related information. Alan said the bottom line is to *develop a comprehensive plan and update it periodically*. President Brown presented the SAR Certificate of Appreciation to Compatriot Alan Mode for his important presentation on emergency preparedness.

President Brown gave the chapter an update on the 124th Annual SAR Congress in Greenville, South Carolina held in July. He noted that Thomas Jefferson Chapter dual member Bob Bogardus of Oregon, and Past CASSAR President Karl Jacobs were in the SAR Minuteman Class of 2014. Other items of interest included the election of Steve Renouf as Vice

President General of the Western District, his election to the 2014-2015 Executive Committee, the future development of an online applications system, and our own Don Gurley receiving another Oak Leaf Cluster for his efforts in membership. Finally, outgoing President General Joe Dooley had committed to having his head shaved on the floor of the Congress if the SAR Foundation was able to raise more than \$1 million in new donations for CAAH during his term in office. The funding goals were reached, and Joe Dooley is now sporting a new “low-maintenance” look. Thanks to all who contributed towards this worthwhile endeavor!

President Brown announced that we have an entry for the Eagle Scout scholarship (Kaleb Bateman), and may have another entry shortly.

Per the Chapter Bylaws, a nominating committee of three members is needed to identify and recommend officers for 2015. Candidates are to be presented for annual election at the December 6 meeting. Don Gurley volunteered for the nominating committee, but there were no other volunteers for the nominating committee or for officers/chairs.

President Brown announced that he has made 4 JROTC and 3 ROTC presentations this year, as well as 8 Eagle certificates (with about another 10 remaining to be presented). He announced that the CASSAR Board of Managers Meeting would be held in Petaluma, CA, on November 7-8, 2014, and the Annual CASSAR Meeting would be held in Irvine, CA, on April 17-18, 2015.

— **Stephen Renouf, Secretary**

OCTOBER 2014

CHAPTER MEETING

Saturday, 25 October 2014

the old spaghetti factory

1955 Mount Diablo Street, Concord, CA

11:30AM—Pre-Meeting
Social



Noon to 2:30PM—Meeting

Programme:

CASSAR VP North Ron Barber: Compatriot Ron Barker will speak on General Francis Marion, "The Swamp Fox." The father of modern guerilla warfare battled the British in South Carolina during the Revolutionary War. Come join us for a great meeting!

MENU

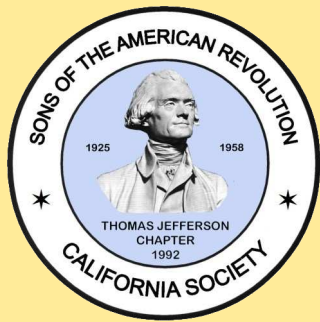
*Spaghetti with Mushroom Sauce,
Fettuccini Alfredo, Chicken Parmigiana, or Baked Lasagna
\$20 per person*

Deadline: 20 October 2014

Questions? Contact Stephen Renouf at Usina@aol.com

Please make check payable to THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER, enclose this reservation slip, and mail to: **Secretary Stephen Renouf, 16123 Paseo del Campo, San Lorenzo. CA 94580**

Name: _____	Entrée choice:	Spaghetti	Fettuccini	Chicken	Lasagna
Guest: _____	Entrée choice:	Spaghetti	Fettuccini	Chicken	Lasagna
Guest2: _____	Entrée choice:	Spaghetti	Fettuccini	Chicken	Lasagna



**THOMAS JEFFERSON
CHAPTER**

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Derek J. Brown
President

Stephen R. Renouf
Secretary

William Rood
Treasurer

Th Jefferson

Quote of the Month

"During my lifetime most of the problems the world has faced have come, in one fashion or another, from mainland Europe, and the solutions from outside it."

– *Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.*



You can download the full version of the *Minuteman* at <http://www.tjsar.org/minman.htm>

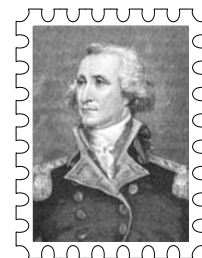
The Thomas Jefferson Chapter

MINUTEMAN

Stephen R. Renouf, Editor

16123 Paseo del Campo

San Lorenzo, CA 94580-2311



**THE 139th BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE
CALIFORNIA SOCIETY**

November 6-8, 2014

Hosted by the California Society & the Redwood Empire Chapter

Sheraton Sonoma County Petaluma

745 Baywood Drive, Petaluma, CA 94954, the gateway to the California wine country.

The nearby Santa Rosa Airport has service from Los Angeles and San Diego on Alaska Airlines

Reservations:

The special room rate is \$139 per night for single or double occupancy. Accommodations include spacious king or double rooms with complimentary WIFI. Hotel parking is free. Room rates are good 3 days before and after the meeting. Reservations may be made by calling 1 (707) 283-2888 and asking for the CASSAR discount rate.

Hotel reservations must be made by October 16, 2014.

MEETING RESERVATION FORM

The meeting registrations postmarked by September 15, 2014 are \$135 per person or \$150 per person after that date. Registration includes all meetings, Friday and Saturday Luncheons, Saturday Banquet, tax and gratuity – Vegetarian meals are available with prior notice.

Checks should be made payable to California Society, SAR and mailed with this registration form to:

Stephen Renouf, 16123 Paseo del Campo, San Lorenzo CA 94580-2311

Questions? Contact Jim Faulkinbury at (916) 359-1752 or jfaulkin@surewest.org

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____
Chapter: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____ Telephone: _____
City/ZIP: _____ Email: _____

Are you staying at the Sheraton Sonoma County Petaluma: (yes or no)

First time to a CASSAR Meeting?

Arriving: Thursday, November 6th Friday, November 7th Saturday, November 8th

Number of Registrants: _____ @ \$135 Late Registrations _____ @ \$150 Total: _____

Non-registered Friday Luncheon: _____ @ \$45each

Non-registered Saturday Luncheon _____ @ \$45 each

Non-registered Saturday Banquet _____ @ \$65 each

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Please mark your meal choices for the Saturday Dinner Banquet

_____ Pan Seared Salmon or _____ Frenched Chicken Breast or _____ vegetarian



You and your guest
are cordially invited to attend the
California Society, Sons of the American Revolution
PRESIDENT'S DINNER

This affordable, fun event is by reservation only and will be held
at the Cattlemen's Restaurant in Petaluma

Guests will depart the hotel's main lobby on Friday, November 7th at 5:30pm and
be driven to the restaurant in member vehicles.

Price: \$35.00 per person. Adult beverages are available at additional cost.

**Please make your check payable to CASSAR and mail to Stephen Renouf
at 16123 Paseo del Campo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580**

Select you meal choices below

_____ Top Sirloin Steak

_____ Atlantic Salmon

_____ Teriyaki Chicken

_____ Pesto Spinach Ravioli

Please RSVP via email to usina@aol.com