

ADDENDUM to May 2011 SFSAR Newsletter

This addendum provides more detail on some of the subjects reported on in the May 2011 issue of the newsletter of the SAR San Francisco Chapter

The Nonpolitical Nature of SAR

Statement by President Tony Bothwell at the Apr. 28, 2011 chapter meeting:

Sons of the American Revolution, by chance of birth descendants of patriots who fought in or gave material aid to that first revolution: We honor forbears who by their sacrifice established the United States of America; honor our countrymen who have put themselves in harm's way – from the Boston Massacre to the latest violence in Afghanistan – and honor the service of all active, reserve, and retired military personnel.

Through patriotic ceremonies and educational activities we aspire to pass on to our posterity an appreciation of how our Nation was founded and what it stands for: Principles of liberty, a Constitutional Republic, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of free men.

In a recent meeting of the California Society of SAR, there was some discussion about whether an SAR meeting should be a platform to advance a partisan ideology or faction. Wayne Griswold rightly said, "This is not a partisan organization."

We did not come to Sinbad's today to discuss issues currently pending before Congress. Our patriot ancestors did not fight to Hamilton's Federalist party. They did not fight for Jefferson's Republican party. They fought for the independence of the nation and the liberty of every citizen.

No party, no faction may dictate what we are to think about the foreign and domestic issues that face the Nation. The Founders had sharp differences among themselves. In the final analysis what united them was their belief in the debate itself and in the process of achieving national consensus. Their genius, their gift to us, their gift to the civilized world, was a revolutionary idea – a Constitutional Republic that does not denigrate the rights of the individual.

Those of us who want to be heard on current political issues are encouraged to participate in the democratic process as individuals and, if we so choose, in the political organizations of our choice. However, use of this podium or any SAR forum to veer outside the scope of the mission of Sons of the American Revolution and into the realm of partisan political debate would be inconsistent with our charter. It would damage SAR recruitment and retention. It would endanger our tax-exempt status. So let us celebrate the political differences that we may have among us, but let us air them in other forums.

Can we here truly renew our commitment to that which unites us? Sons of the American Revolution, heirs of that first revolution, it is our duty – it is our privilege – to honor the dream that united our forefathers, and never to forget the blood that was shed for our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and a Nation of free men. And women.

Registrar's Report

Update from Registrar Grant Noah:

We have the following prospects who have inquired about membership in the San Francisco Chapter: David Allen, Jeff Harrison, Max Kellogg, Jim Quimby and August Roth. Compatriot President Tony Bothwell has two cousins and Compatriot Herb Dedo brother and two cousins....

Brother – if SAR member is in good standing, you need only show for the generation of the brother a birth certificate and then for each subsequent generation the National SAR number for the current SAR member. **Cousin** – start with the cousin, as if he were new applicant, birth certificate to his parents which should be different parents line, connection to grandparents, and then the usual documentation to the direct line to the line that a current SAR member has and then each generation annotate National SAR number – that is assuming he is claiming the same America Revolution ancestor.

New California Society Registrar: Compatriot Owen Stiles:

“I have the honor of becoming the new CASSAR Registrar and am excited to begin working with you to ensure the lasting life and legacy of the California SAR. Yesterday I spent several hours with Tom Chilton as he turned over the responsibilities to me. First I want to thank Tom for the yeoman's job he has done in getting your local chapter applicants in proper order for submission. Secondly, I assure I will do everything in my power to maintain the level of integrity that Tom has given to the program.”

Note that the current backlog at National is 4 to 5 months and they are making every effort to get the backlog time down to 8 to 10 weeks.

Compatriot Grant Noah, SF Registrar, has over two years' experience working with the Redwood Empire Chapter and assisted ten new prospects in receiving their membership in 2010-2011. Grant's 2nd supplemental application, under his ancestor Peter Todd, is now being processed by National.

To our membership:

If you know of anyone who has an interest in joining the SAR including brothers and cousins let me know Invite them to our meeting!
For life time membership I have the new fee determined by your age.

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