

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT
DAVID GILLIARD



It is my pleasure to report that Gold Country SAR is off to a great start in 2011. My goal is to make this a year when our Chapter can continue to work together and advance the goals of the SAR and the principles we share, for the good of our chapter, community, state and nation.

I want to thank past President Keith Bigbee for leading the Chapter during 2010. Keith has gone above and beyond for our Chapter and Society and we are all grateful for his service.

Our January meeting at Lou LaBonte's in Auburn featured guest speaker Michael Babich, who talked about the rise of Fabian socialism in American education – a very interesting and important topic. We also welcomed two new members to the SAR and our Chapter, Gordon Clark and Paul Hatling.

The annual Poster Contest is in full swing. We are visiting local schools every week, talking about the Battle of Cowpens and the poster contest. The last two national winners have come from Gold Country and, more importantly, we have been able to speak to several thousand 5th graders over the last few years through this program. Thanks to all who volunteer their time to make it a success.

We have a new website address – www.GoldCountrySAR.com – please check out the new design and updated information. There is also a Facebook link on the website for those of you on Facebook.

One new feature on our website is a section called “Our Patriot Ancestors.” Please forward to me the Name, State, and type of service for your ancestor(s) and we will honor them by including this information on our website. Depending on the final design, we may have space for a few interesting facts as well.

Gold Country Chapter plans to publicly recognize and celebrate Patriot's Day – April 19 – the day the first shots of the Revolutionary War were fired on Lexington Green and at Concord's Old North Bridge. Patriot's Day is a state holiday in some states, but in California it passes unnoticed. We are looking into the idea of holding an event with our Color Guard around the new flagpole in downtown Auburn, and perhaps, having one or more of our members visit local schools.

On behalf of the Chapter I want to thank our new Newsletter Editor, Ron Barker and new Webmaster, Greg Hill for their service and dedication.

In liberty and service,
Dave Gilliard

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Calendar of Events

Nationalwww.sar.org

March 10-12, 2011 - Spring 2011
Leadership (Trustees) Meeting,
Louisville, KY

July 8-13, 2011 - 121st Annual
Congress, Marriot Winston-
Salem, Winston-Salem, NC

Sept 30—Oct 1, 2011 - Fall
Leadership Meeting, NSSAR HQ,
Louisville, KY

Statewww.California.org

February 20, 2011- Massing of Colors,
Forest Lawn Memorial Park
6300 Forest Lawn Drive
Los Angeles
Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

April 8-10, 2011 – California Society
The 136th Spring Meeting
Crown Plaza, Irvine

When to Fly the American Flag: Although it is permitted to fly the American Flag any and every day of the year, it is recommended to fly the flag on certain holidays and special occasions. Most people associate the flag with patriotic days like Independence Day and Flag Day, but any holiday that is important to our country can be represented by the flag

February 12, 2011 Lincoln's Birthday
February, 22, 2011 Washington's Birthday

**The next Gold Country Chapter meeting is
Saturday, February 19th at 9:00 AM
Lou La Bonte's Restaurant, Auburn**

The Gold Country Chapter's 2011 regular meetings will be held on the 3rd Saturday of each month except in May, September and December. During these months special meeting dates occur in order to accommodate other Chapter or California Society activities. All regular meetings are held in the banquet room of Lou La Bonte's Restaurant, 13460 Lincoln Way, Auburn, (530) 885-9193, at 9:00AM. See you there!

Visit our Chapter, State and National Websites

GoldCountrySAR.com ♦ CaliforniaSAR.org ♦ SAR.org

**The submission deadline for the March edition of
The Forty-Niner is Friday, February 25, 2011.**

The Forty-Niner is the official newsletter of the Gold Country Chapter, California Society, SAR. Statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect or state those of the Editor or of the California or National Societies, SAR. All content, photographs and graphics contained herein are subject to copyright law. Newsletter or Website related questions or submissions should be directed to Chapter Editor: Ron Barker at (530) 205-9581 or email ron0729con@comcast.net. All Rights Reserved.

The American Revolution Month-by-Month

February 1781

The Carolinas

Change in the Wind

By Andrew Jackson Stough, III

Edited by Ron Barker



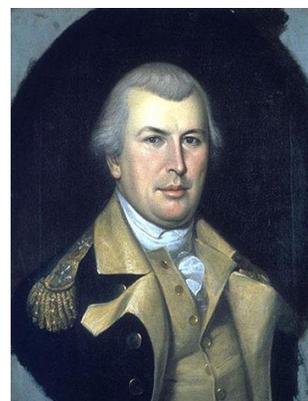
Following the major military actions in February is extremely difficult without a map. The Carolinas have a tangle of wide, fast rivers running generally southeast. This mass of water creates many swampy areas. The area is also heavily wooded. Bridges are rare and most rivers are crossed at fords. Even then, crossings are dependent on the depth and flow of the water. Roads are for the most part merely wagon tracks. On winter days they are a quagmire where a wagon can sink to the hub. Nights are a nightmare of frozen ruts for American soldiers on night marches. Americans' uniforms have become rags, and shoes almost non-existent, while empty bellies are an affliction upon all. Considering the conditions under which the Continental army lived and fought it is remarkable that they could even remain in the field, let alone fight, and defeat, a war hardened, well equipped and supplied British army.



Daniel Morgan



General Cornwallis



Nathanael Greene

After escaping Cornwallis, Morgan had rested on the east side of the Catawba. Greene saw Morgan's location as untenable. If Morgan were forced into the mountains, Greene would lose the best equipped, most experienced, and most dependable men in the Southern Army, which would jeopardize the entire Southern force.

After giving orders to Huger to move all prisoners from Hillsboro and Salisbury to a safe place in Virginia, Greene prepared for a possible retreat into Virginia, ordering Koziusko to seize all boats on the Dan River (on the border of North Carolina and Virginia) in the event of a hasty retreat before Cornwallis' three-pronged army. He arrived in Morgan's camp January 30 instructing him to rejoin the main army. February 1, Morgan broke camp, moving north toward the main army,

Greene could lose no time. He knew that Cornwallis was burning all but his essential wagons, equipment and supplies. Cornwallis could now move rapidly and appeared headed for Virginia. Greene in response planned to proceed northward over a course that Cornwallis could, and probably would, follow, moving just fast enough to coax Cornwallis to follow; drawing Cornwallis ever further from his source of supply, while Greene would be moving closer to his base of supply and expected reinforcements.

January 28, Cornwallis was marching toward Beattie's Ford on the Catawba near Morgan's camp. General William Davidson with the North Carolina militia was guarding four river crossings on the Catawba. Cornwallis had divided his force in an attempt to flank and encircle the Americans as he had successfully done in the past. At 1 A.M. on February 2, he sent a heavy force to feint against Beattie's, the largest of the four fords. The real target was Cowan's Ford six miles downriver from Beattie's. Cowan's was a split ford forming a Y, with the bottom of the Y on the south bank. One side was usable for wagons, the other fork safe only for horsemen. On the south side there was but one entrance. On the north side there were two exits a quarter mile apart. Led by a Tory guide, Generals O'Hara and Cornwallis began the crossing. For some reason the guide disappeared before reaching the Y and the attack was made from the ford safe for horses only.

Due to the sound of rushing water, and darkness of a cold rainy morning, the militia guards were surprised by the British. General Davidson, ¼ mile away at the wagon crossing, heard the firing and rushed reinforcements only to find that the first redcoats were already across and driving back the militia. Davidson rushed to the front and ordered the militia back in an orderly retreat. Davidson was killed and the militia broke and ran in panic. It was a setback but not a fatal one. Morgan and his troops (Cornwallis' real target) had left their camp the day before. By the time Cornwallis was across the river in force, Morgan had marched all night in the rain, and was safe 30 miles away.

Greene stayed at Morgan's abandoned camp with a few men to rendezvous with Davidson's militia, then move on with them to join Morgan. The militia who remained did not go to Morgan's camp but assembled close to Tarrant's Tavern. When Tarleton's cavalry appeared they again fled. Greene waited at the campsite until a messenger arrived, who notified him of Davidson's death, the dispersal of the militia and of Cornwallis' successful crossing of the Catawba. He then rode alone to Salisbury stopping at Steele's Tavern. When greeted and asked if he were alone he responded, "Yes, alone, tired, hungry and without a penny." At this point Ward relates "... on his departure Mrs. Steele brought him two small bags of hard cash telling him that "You need them more than I do." At that moment the two bags of coins were the total finances of the Southern Army

On February 2 & 3, Morgan passed Salisbury only to find the Yadkin impossible to ford. Fortunately with Greene's foresight, Kosciuszko had found boats to move men and supplies while cavalrymen swam their horses across the river. When British general O'Hara arrived at the Yadkin he found the wagons abandoned by Morgan, but there were no boats available. He was stranded on the south side of the river with Morgan camped on the far shore. O'Hara opened fire on the American camp with field pieces, but could do little damage because Morgan's camp was set behind a low hill protecting it from cannon fire. There was no reply as Morgan had no field pieces.

Greene stopped at Salem the evening of February 4, then moved on to Guilford Courthouse, arriving on the 6th, where Huger's division joined them. Cornwallis was by this time at Salem 25 miles away. Greene decided that if he received reinforcements of Continentals from Virginia to add to the 1,426 in place from Delaware and Maryland, he could make a decisive stand at Guilford Courthouse. The expected troops did not appear and Greene began a race for the Dan River. Cornwallis, in haste to catch Greene, burned even more of his supply train. His 3,000 soldiers, burdened only with what they could carry, moved faster than Greene with his supply train.

Greene was in a quandary. To continue a retreat could lead to depression on the part of his troops and encourage Tories to rise up for the king. To fight against these odds was an invitation to defeat of the only army in the South. Greene decided to continue a retreat, but a fighting one. Colonel Otho Williams of Maryland was given command of a light corps to destroy bridges and in every way impede Cornwallis' progress while leading him to the upper Dan, while Greene and Huger moved to the lower Dan. Pickens and his irregulars had stood fast under fire & were still with Greene. They were now sent to rouse militia to harass Cornwallis, cut off his foragers and prevent any intelligence about Greene's location or actions from reaching Cornwallis.

The evening of February 8, troops under Williams moved west toward Salem and the upper Dan. Morgan reached Guilford Courthouse February 9, uniting with Greene's command. Greene and Huger then moved toward the lower Dan. Cornwallis misinterpreted the movement of light troops as an indication that Greene would move toward the upper Dan.

Feb 13, Williams had moved at a rapid pace sleeping only 6 hours a night to stay ahead of Cornwallis, who was making 30 miles a day. Lee's Legion, the rear guard, for William's force, was surprised by Tarleton's horses. In the fight Tarleton lost 18 men and fled. Williams, deciding that he had led Cornwallis far enough astray, broke away to join Greene and the main force. Unfortunately Cornwallis had also taken the same route and was close behind. Williams pushed on through the night arriving at the Dan barely ahead of Cornwallis. Kosciuszko again had boats waiting to ferry the men while the horses swam across the river. Cornwallis was stuck on the south side with no way of crossing the Dan. Greene's entire army had escaped.

Safe in Virginia Greene went into camp to rest and restore his command but, his troubles were not over. Many of the militia were nearing the end of their enlistment which could lead to morale problems among the Continentals. Greene again called for the promised Virginia Continentals. If he received them he would again move south into the Carolinas.

On February 24, Lee encountered Loyalist Colonel John Pyle with a mounted contingent coming in the opposite direction. Pyle was bringing fresh Tory troops to reinforce Cornwallis. Pyle mistook Lee and his cavalry for Tarleton's Legion since Tarleton and Lee wore similar uniforms. As the two units passed each other, Lee congratulated Pyle's men on their loyalty, believing that by this ruse when they were solidly abreast he could require them to surrender. As usual, someone at the end of the American file did not get word of the plan and gave the signal that this was enemy cavalry. An attack began with the

confused loyalists shouting "You are killing your own men" The engagement lasted only 15 minutes. Lee had planned at the proper time to reveal his true identity and demand Pyle's surrender, but the premature alarm precluded this. From then on it was kill or be killed. Loyalists who tried to escape were cut off by American militia and Catawba Indians concealed in trees along the road. The Americans lost one horse, few Loyalists survived the fight. Colonel Pyle hid in a nearby pond until nightfall, keeping only his nose above water. It was yet another blow to the morale and recruitment of Loyalists.

Meanwhile John Paul Jones was returning to the United States by an indirect route to avoid the British Navy. However, he did engage in one skirmish with the British privateer *Triumph*. He forced the *Triumph* to surrender, but as Jones was putting a prize crew in the water, the *Triumph* suddenly set sail. Being faster and more maneuverable than Jones' *Ariel*, the *Triumph* escaped. This was Jones' final engagement in the U.S. Navy. He arrived at Philadelphia February 18.

In March Greene, with the promised reinforcements, moved back into the Carolinas to face Cornwallis.

References:

Arthur Meier Schlessinger's "Almanac of American History"; Wards "The War of the Revolution"; Lancaster's "The American Revolution"; Utley and Washburn's "Indian Wars"; Galloway's "The American Revolution in Indian Country." ; Higginbotham's "The War of American Independence".

Not for sale or republication, The American Revolution, Month-by-Month series was written and is published solely for the benefit of the members of Gold Country Chapter, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. B



Member News

Dale Ross will be receiving the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America for his work with the Scouts. The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. The Silver Beaver is an award given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. It is given to those who do not actively seek it. Congratulations Dale!!



Silver Beaver Award

Bob Gentry will be out for a couple of months with a knee operation. We will miss you Bob.



Harlan Mason Cleaver, is a member of Gold Country Chapter. He currently resides in a full-care facility Frederick Maryland. His wife, DAR member Beverly Cleaver, assembled the attached display of Dad's certificates and medal's. We thought you might want to include some of the pictures in an upcoming edition of the Chapter Newsletter. He is going on 97 and still has a smile and fond memories of his time in Office with the Gold Country Chapter.

Brent Cleaver

SAR# 143065 / CA# 6713



BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

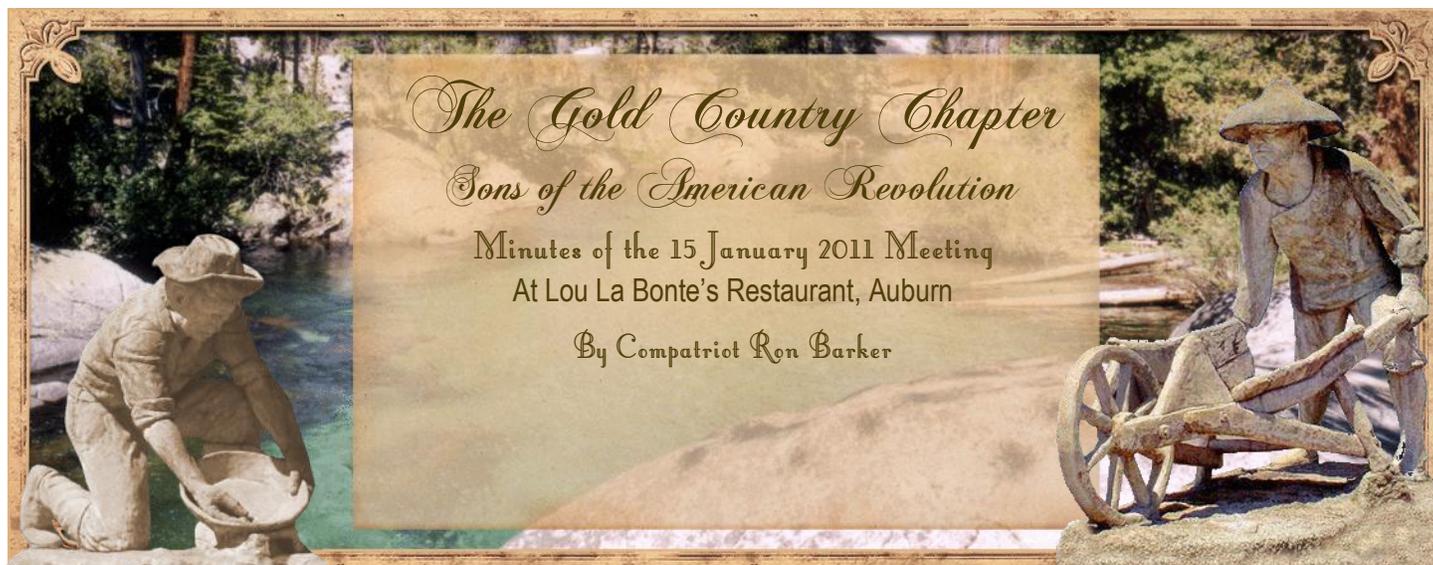
Shel Ball
Ron Williams
Smitty Virgil
Braxton Crismore

FEBRUARY

Jerry Kopp
Darryl Hopkins
Darrell Burruss

MARCH

Dick Fowler
Joe Spitler
Mark Spitler
Mike Holmes
Dale Ross
Larry Bigbee
Brody Schuck



President Dave Gilliard called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM. The Invocation was given by Ron Williams. Barry Hopkins led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Smith Virgil with the SAR Pledge.

Attendance:

Seventeen members and seven guests attended the meeting.

Guests Recognized: President Gilliard recognized Supervisor Jim Holmes and Councilman Mike Holmes.

Introductions: President Gilliard introduced new members Gordon Clark and Paul Hatling. Members came forward to welcome these two new members.

General Business: President Gilliard asked for a motion approving the November Meeting minutes as handed out at the meeting. A motion was made, seconded and carried. The chapter has a new web site: www.goldcountrysar.com. There was an advertisement in the Placer paper for the Sons of the American Revolution and any leads in our area would come to the Gold Country Chapter. There will be some special elections on March 8th, May 3rd and June 14th and the chapter has advised we are able to volunteer as each precinct will provide \$600 to the chapter if we are the precinct workers.

Reports:

Secretary: Ron Barker announced that the deadline for the newsletter was Friday, January 28th.

Treasurer: Bruce N. Choate reported the chapter has a current balance of \$6,120.01 in the Community Bank checking account and \$13,977.06 in the Vanguard Prime money market on-line account as of 31 December 2011.

Registrar: Registrar Smith Virgil reported five new applications mailed and one new associate, Earl L. Young.

Color Guard: Dale Ross advised our chapter participated in the Wreaths Across America on December 11, 2010. The next event is the Massing of Colors, National SAR Event at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, February 20, 2011.

Chaplain: There was no report

Programs:

JROTC: Chairman Mike Holmes reported the first Air Force JROTC awards will be at Rocklin High School on January 29th. He will advise on the other upcoming schools with JROTC presentations.

Eagle Scout: Chairman Dale Ross advised we have not received an application for the Eagle Scout Award.

Community Awards: Early planning is for this event to take place in May, 2011.

Guest Speaker:

Today's speaker was Mr. Michael Babich PhD, U.S. Army who talked about Fabian Socialism, social change through evolution and not revolution. He talked about the failures of education, in that sixty percent of graduates from high school that go on to college have to take remedial classes. Television is having a huge influence on society and change. What can you do? Question change-do not just accept it. Challenge why the change is being made.

Unfinished Business:

Past-president Bigbee presented Ron Williams with his certificate of Life Membership. A certificate of appreciation for work at the election polls was presented to Ron Williams and Bruce Choate.

Past-president Bigbee presented Bruce Choate the medal for Meritorious Service for taking over the responsibility of Treasurer at a time when there was great change and challenges within the chapter.

Mike Holmes was presented the meritorious Service Medal in December for his great service through many different avenues and his willingness to coordinate functions with the City of Auburn which is appreciated. He has served as First Vice President for many terms.

Dale Ross was presented the Meritorious Service Medal for his commitment to the chapter and to the SAR as a whole that is nothing short of amazing. He is always ready to lend a hand,

drive to an event, organize anything you ask of him, along with being quartermaster and color guard commander.



The Meritorious Service Medal was authorized in 1980 and may be awarded to SAR members who have rendered long, faithful and meritorious service to their chapter, state society, district, or to the National Society. This medal may be awarded by the National Society, a district, a state society, or a chapter and is awarded for lesser services than would merit the Patriot Medal. It may be awarded to an individual once by the National Society, a district, a state society or a chapter.

New Business:

Tuesday, April 19th is Patriots Day and the chapter is planning a flag event in Auburn with details to follow.

President Dave Gilliard advised that he wanted an Executive Board meeting in the next couple of weeks to go over the budget and the events for the coming year.

Closing:

Smith Virgil led the SAR Recessional and Ron Williams gave the Benediction.

President Gilliard adjourned the meeting at 10:18AM.



SAR Genealogy Assistants

SAR Genealogy Assistants are those members of the SAR who offer more "hands-on" help than New Member Helpers. SAR Genealogy Assistants take an active role in researching and compiling SAR applications for new members, who may have limited or no experience in genealogical research or in preparing an application for a lineage society. The degree to which an SAR Genealogy Assistant can assist a potential new member will vary based on the specific needs of the potential new member.

Genealogy Assistants are scattered throughout the country. Not every state has a Genealogy Assistant. Genealogy Assistants may have expertise conducting genealogical research in a particular geographic area, or among a specific ethnic or religious group.

Potential new members may wish to consider the expertise of the Genealogy Assistant and should contact the Genealogy Assistant nearest them. Regardless of his primary expertise, SAR Genealogy Assistants should be able to help most potential new members.

Genealogy Assistants should act within the following guidelines:

- Genealogy Assistants may not charge for their help to new SAR applicants. Their service is given for the good of the SAR. Professional genealogical researchers may be SAR Genealogy Assistants, but they must distinguish between the fee based services they offer, and the services they render voluntarily as an SAR Genealogy Assistant.
- When SAR Genealogy Assistants conduct research for potential new members, they may incur costs, such as the fees for vital records, photocopying, and postage. SAR Genealogy Assistants may request from potential new members reimbursement of these costs, and should let the new members know beforehand that such costs will need to be reimbursed.
- Genealogy Assistants are encouraged to work with the appropriate Chapter or State Society where the new member lives, and with which the new member will be associated. Genealogy Assistants should contact the new member's local Chapter as soon as they start working with a potential new member, and let the local Chapter know what's going on.
- Genealogy Assistants are not precluded from signing as the first-line sponsor on the applications they prepare, but they must recognize that it is not always appropriate for them to do so. There may be cases where an applicant has a friend or relative in the SAR whom he wants as his first-line sponsor. The Genealogy Assistant should respect this, and help the new member any way he can for the good of the SAR. In those cases where the new member does not have a first-line sponsor, the Genealogy Assistant should offer to sign the potential new member's application as the first-line sponsor.
- Genealogy Assistants should be familiar with SAR genealogical standards, policies, and procedures. Genealogy Assistants should also be familiar with the types of SAR memberships available (Regular, Junior, Life).

- The assistance of an SAR Genealogy Assistant does not guarantee the approval of an SAR application. Certainly, we all hope that applications prepared with such assistance will move through the approval process more smoothly, but there can be no guarantee of this.

<p>The following compatriots of the SAR have volunteered to work as Genealogy Assistants:</p> <p>Larry Cornwell, Alabama</p> <p>Expertise: United States</p> <p>Contact: LaCornwell@aol.com</p>	<p>Robert H. Rodgers, CG, Vermont</p> <p>Expertise: Vermont</p> <p>Contact: rrodgers@uvm.edu</p>
<p>Warren M. Alter, Arizona</p> <p>Expertise: United States</p> <p>Contact: warrenalter@cox.net</p>	<p>Miles K. Dechant, Pennsylvania</p> <p>Expertise: Pennsylvania, east of the Susquehanna River</p> <p>Contact: mkdech@comcast.net</p>
<p>Marston Watson, California</p> <p>Expertise: New England and California</p> <p>Email: mwatson@royalancestry.org</p>	<p>Brent Morgan, Virginia</p> <p>Expertise: Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and Virginia</p> <p>Contact: brentster1@comcast.net</p>
<p>Doug Little, Florida</p> <p>Expertise: United States</p> <p>Contact: wdlittle@gmail.com</p>	<p>Edward E. Friloux, Louisiana</p> <p>Expertise: Louisiana and Mississippi</p> <p>Contact: edfriloux1@wwdb.org</p>
<p>A. Bingham Seibold III, Illinois</p> <p>Expertise: United States</p> <p>Contact: binghamseiboldiii@msn.com</p>	<p>Richard A. Steele, Michigan</p> <p>Expertise: Michigan and New England</p> <p>Contact: r.a.steele@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p>Christopher T. Smithson, Maryland</p> <p>Expertise: Maryland</p> <p>Contact: ctsmithson@gmail.com</p>	<p>Peter T. Baron, Texas</p> <p>Expertise: Northern Neck of Virginia, Texas/New Spain</p> <p>Contact: ptbaron@hotmail.com</p>

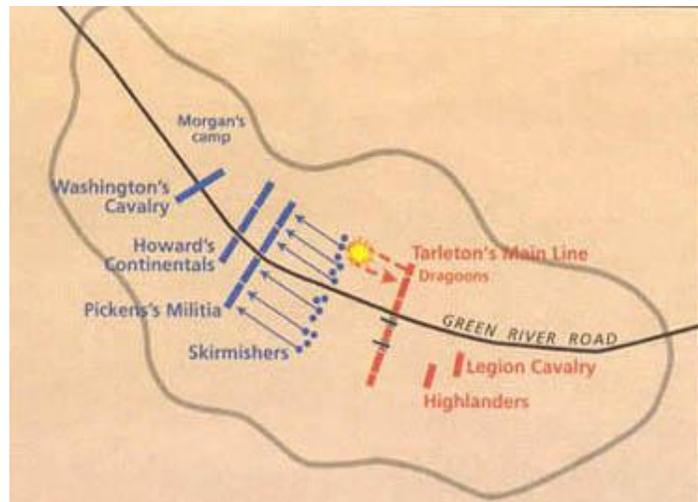


THE Forty-Niner

Newsletter of the Gold Country Chapter
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
PO Box 408 • Meadow Vista, CA 95722-0408



FIRST CLASS
Address Correction Requested



Presentation of NSSAR Poster Contest at Excelsior School by Dave Gilliard, Wayne Griswold, Ron Barker, Conni Barker, Earl Young, Barry Hopkins at Excelsior School in Roseville. The subject of this year's SAR poster contest is the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina.

The Gold Country Chapter will present the contest to eight elementary schools.

Battle of Cowpens January 17, 1781