

July

2023

# San Diego Chapter

## Sons of the American Revolution

### Monthly Digest



### Birthdays

William White	3
Charles Norris	10
Nicholas Hoffmann	13
Mark Goodman	15
George Parsons	16
Wayne Jones	18
Paul Kidd	20
Frederick Hall	21
George Brewster	23
Weyman (Skip) Cox	25
Ernest Bray	28
Frederick Rupert	29
Terrence Boyll	31



**Just Announced- Formal Memorial Service for Philip Hinshaw** will be August 26th at Bostonia Church of Christ, 1244 Summer Ave, El Cajon. The service will begin at 10:30 and there will be a lite lunch served afterwards.

### New Members

Join us in welcoming our latest addition to our Chapter. This brings our active membership to 148 after starting the year at 132. The following new members were accepted by NSSAR in July. Two are brothers and the other is a cousin to them.

- **Hayden Thompson**
- **Jarrett Thompson**
- **Chris Garner**

## Bennington Memorial Event To Honor Philip Hinshaw

**This year's Bennington Memorial service will be dedicated to our late Compatriot, Philip Hinshaw.** Philip was a major supporter of the annual remembrance of those lost when the USS Bennington's boiler exploded on July 21, 1905 in San Diego Bay.

On that morning, coal passers were stoking the boilers of the **USS Bennington**, and at 10:38 a.m. a low, rumbling roar crossed San Diego Bay, followed by two quick blasts as boilers in the engine room exploded. Clouds of black steam rose over the waterfront near where the USS Midway is now berthed. Army Captain Rolfe, crossing the bay in a launch on the way to Fort Rosecrans quickly boarded the ship. "The whole deck seemed to lift," he later told a reporter. When the air over the bay cleared, 65 sailors and one officer lay dead and dying on the decks of the ship and in the surrounding waters

### More information on the USS Bennington

Each year a memorial takes place at Fort Rosecrans at the Bennington Memorial. The graves of the 35 Bennington sailors buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery will be decorated with U.S. Flags and red, white and blue carnations. **This may be the last year of the Bennington Memorial so do not miss this opportunity to honor those we have lost.**

**There is a formal Memorial Service for Philip on August 26, see our website Events page for details.**





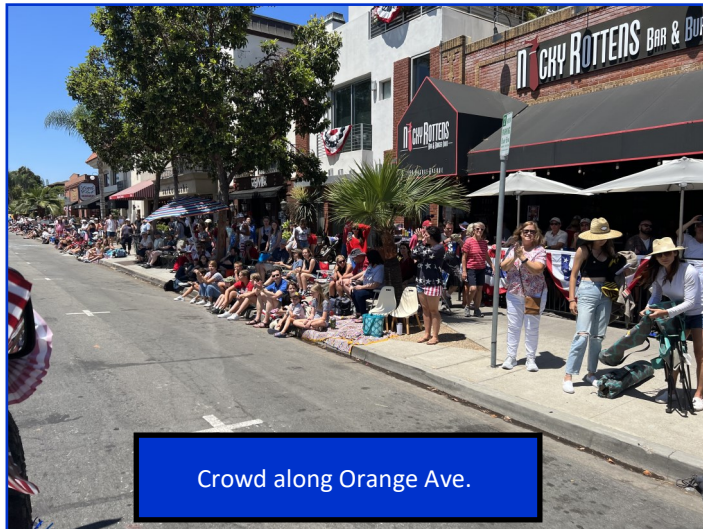


## July 4th Weekend

We had a very busy 4th of July weekend with two days of our House of USA and House of Spain displays in Balboa Park and culminating with our participation in the Coronado 4th of July parade.



Coronado July 4th Parade



Crowd along Orange Ave.



Michael Hirman



Waiting..waiting. Parade staging area has shade where you can find it!

Our Chapter participated in the Coronado July 4th parade which Channel 5 News reports attracts 100,000 people each year. The lengthy route was packed on both sides of Orange Ave. from near the Ferry Landing to near the Hotel Del. Our Color Guard marched while some members rode in vehicles provided by the Jeep Gladiators Club.

Color Guard members were Duncan Campbell, Philip Hirman and Rob Welch. Members riding were Michael Hirman, Carolyn Campbell and Jim McAdory.





# BALBOA PARK

## Information Displays



We had two good days in Balboa Park where we had displays at the House of USA and the House of Spain. As usual we had constant requests to pose with visitors for photos and answered lots of questions. At the House of Spain we had a steady flow of park visitors stop by to learn about the critical role Spain played in our fight for independence. At the outdoor stage our color guard presented the colors to open the afternoon program. Our Color Guard Commander gave a presentation on the daily life of a private in the Continental Army. (L->R), Duncan Campbell, Judy Newton, Gary Newton, Jim McAdory, Carolyn Campbell, Jesus Benayas, Michael Hirman, Alan Winters and Rob Welch.



Duncan Campbell instructs a "recruits" on safely handling a musket. He also gave a presentation on the life of a Private.



Left Posing with visitors is a common occurrence.  
Right Jesus Benayas on Spain's role in our independence.





## SDSAR at County Supervisor Town Hall

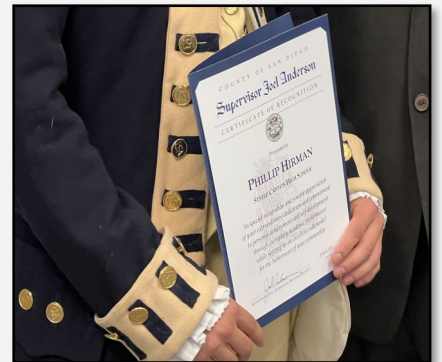


Members of the San Diego Chapter attended a Town Hall meeting held by San Diego County Supervisor Joel Anderson in Rancho Bernardo. We are asking our County's Supervisors for their support in the America 250 program and events we are planning in our area. While there is nothing concrete at this time the Supervisor did seem receptive. We plan to attend other gatherings with our County Supervisors as they occur until we have met with all Supervisors.

*Above, left to right, Michael Hirman, Supervisor Anderson, Jim McAdory, Philip Hirman and Duncan Campbell*



Supervisor Anderson also presented our Junior Member, Philip Hirman, with a Certificate of Appreciation for his community service. Philip attends Steele Canyon High School in Spring Valley.



## Flag Certificate Presentation

Michael Hirman presents a Flag Certificate to the Alpine Lutheran church.

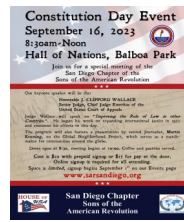
## Upcoming Meetings

### August-Green Dragon



Our former Chapter President, Dr. Robert Fagaly will present "*Comitia Americana: The First Congressional Medals of Honor*". The presentation will describe the 11 medals awarded to Revolutionary War heroes beginning with George Washington and ending with Nathanael Greene. The talk will discuss the history of the medals, the basis for the award and mention three other little known Revolutionary War medals. Examples of all 11 Comitia Americana medals will be shown with five of them being the original bronze medals struck in the 1780's.

### September-Balboa Park



Our August Meeting will be held in the Hall of Nations in the Cottage area of Balboa Park. Our keynote speaker will be the:

**Honorable J. CLIFFORD WALLACE**  
**Senior Judge, Chief Judge Emeritus**  
**of the**  
**United States Court of Appeals**

The program will also feature a presentation by retired journalist, **Martin Kruming**.

We are inviting members of DAR so we expect a large turnout. Signup begins September 1.

## Wreaths Across America



**WREATHS**  
 — across —  
**AMERICA**

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day we Remember, Honor and Teach by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. The fundraising drive begins every year in July to allow sufficient time to amass enough donations to meet our goals.

The San Diego Chapter is sponsoring wreaths at Miramar and Ft. Rosecrans National Cemeteries. For each \$15 wreath purchased, the Chapter receives \$5 which we use for our ongoing educational and community programs. Our

Chapter coordinator is Kristine Reardon who the daughter of our late SDSAR Compatriot, Lawrence "Larry" Harden. Join us by donating for a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you, volunteering or donating to a local sponsorship group. Wreath purchases can be made at any time however to be laid for the current year they should be made by mid-November.

***The funds raised in this program are a major portion of our Chapter's revenue.***

To purchase a wreath that is linked to our Chapter, please use one of the links below:

**[Click here to sponsor a wreath\(s\)](#)**



This is a *tentative* list of future events, Check our website Events page for a full list.

**August 12**, Bennington Memorial & Philip Hinshaw Memorial at Ft. Rosecrans

**August 19**, Chapter Meeting at the Green Dragon in Carlsbad, program TBA.

**August 26**, Memorial Service for Philip Hinshaw.

**December 16**, Boston Tea Party reenactment, Chula Vista Harbor Park.

### 2023 Info Booth Schedule

**September 9**  
Clairemont Family Day

**October**  
Columbus Day, Balboa Park

**November 11**  
Veterans Day, Balboa Park

**December 16**, Boston Tea Party, Chula Vista Harbor Park.

## What is our news feed?

The home page of our website has a regularly updated list of short articles on current news of interest to our members. It is on the right side of the page.

The “feed” is updated about once a week on average but often will have multiple articles posted during a week. There is the option to scroll to earlier posts as well. [www.sarSanDiego.org](http://www.sarSanDiego.org)



# America 250

## Our Chapter Plans for America 250

Our Past President, Michael Hirman has been leading our America 250 committee and we have plans in place for an reenactment of the Boston Tea Party on December 16th this year. We are also actively contacting various civic leaders in our communities and at the county level.

Our goal is to have at least one major event each year during the America 250 program timeline. For 2024 we have a tentative plan to hold a program in Balboa Park centered around the first Continental Congress and in 2025 we will host a reenactment of the Battle of Lexington & Concord in the Laguna Mountains. Anyone that would like to participate in the planning and/or actual events please contact us at:

[Membership@SarSanDiego.org](mailto:Membership@SarSanDiego.org)

The “250 Minute” refers to brief presentations given by members on topics related to the Revolutionary War Period. These are short, one to five minute presentations and can be longer if needed. Visual aids such as a PowerPoint presentation are not required. Members earn points for each presentation which are accumulated for America 250 medals and awards (see the link below for more information).

Here are some guidelines from CASSAR.

- Celebrate and draw attention to colonial ancestors.
- Increase awareness of challenges, struggles, sacrifices
- [Revolutionary War Master List](#)

We have “[America 250](#)” pages on our website where post more details and recent activity.



**Join  
our  
Color  
Guard**