



California Society of the  
Sons of the American Revolution

Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., Chapter  
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Minutes of the Special Meeting for  
**19 May 2007**  
Armed Forces Day

The special Armed Forces Day luncheon meeting of the General George S. Patton, Jr., Chapter SAR was held Saturday, 19 May 2007, in the Garden Room of Marie Callender's restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura. The meeting was called to order by Chapter president Bill Henry, who provided a short introduction. In attendance were seven compatriots: Bill Henry, Ron Risley, Ward White, Frank Budroe, Gary Smith, John Darnall, and Bob Taylor; and sixteen guests: our guest speaker Mr. Doug Miller, Mrs. Rosemarie Risley, Mrs. Loni Jung (sister of Rosemarie Risley), Mrs. Willette Budroe, Mrs. Bernie Smith, Mrs. Fran Henry, Burt & Nancy Jacobs, Mr. Ernest Thorpe, Mr. Ken Munger, Mr. Art Balchter, Murray & Joan Phillips, Mrs. Arlene Darnall, Mr. Bob Church, and Mr. Glen Sanders.

The invocation was given by Gary Smith, followed by the pledges to the Flag and the SAR.

Due to the nature of this meeting as a special tribute to Armed Forces Day, the normal business of the chapter was dispensed with.

Ward White presented a special tribute to the members of the armed forces, both past and present, in the form of a poetic reading, emphasizing their sacrifices and the depth of our debts to their sacrifices.

Ward White then introduced our special speaker, Mr. Doug Miller, who presented the program, titled: "Finding Patriot Ancestors through DNA Testing". Mr. Miller is a past president of the Southern California Genealogical Society, and emphasized the valuable research library of that organization, while encouraging our participation as members. He described his research into his French-Canadian family ancestry, and again his research to successfully validate his brother-in-law's family claim to descent from the Pilgrim Fuller family. He emphasized that DNA research would have saved him considerable money and time in his genealogical research, had it been available for his use earlier. His presentation was in the form of an "Introductory DNA" slide show, and gave a thorough introduction into Y (male) and MT (female) DNA and genealogical research techniques through that science. The Y chromosome was determined in testing conducted 1985-1995 to be passed from father to son, and is therefore repeatable as an identification tool within the male side of the family. DNA testing as a genealogical tool

is of recent origin, starting in 1993 in Cheddar, England, based on DNA from the remains of a 7000 year old man found 1903 in a cave in the area with the then-current students of the city, and a match was found with one of the school teachers. One news-worthy DNA project was the Thomas Jefferson/Sally Hemmings paternity issue, which verified her role as his mistress. The Family Tree DNA project then started in 2000 with the goal of providing a centralized base for genealogical DNA research. Two additional organizations were identified as working in genealogical research: Relative Genetics and DNA Heritage. By 2006 six companies were in operation. The National Geographic Project started in 2005, and has as its goal the identification of migratory paths from Africa 60,000 to 100,000 years ago. The NSSAR in 2006 provided guidelines for the use of DNA identification of Revolutionary War ancestors. DNA was described as the biological “bar code” for the human, with 23 pairs of chromosomes provided from both mother and father within a helix. This helix is basically stretched out, and machine-tabulated to determine the ATCG repeatable code pattern of each pair. The results provide the Haplo group, which determines the ethnicity of the person with negligible errors. The objective of the testing is to:

- Determine relationship to ancestors
- Prove or disprove genealogical theories
- Break down walls and provide clues
- Validate existing research.

Participation in DNA genealogical research was emphasized, with increased numbers providing improved finesse in results and improving the actual identification results. There are currently about 4000 surname to geographic location projects in the data base, with about 126,700 Y DNA results. Mr. Miller described 4 basic tests:

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| Y DNA                 | father to son, or paternal line                |
| MT DNA (mitochondria) | mother to children, or maternal line           |
| Autosomal DNA         | tests to grandparents, determines ethnic mixes |
| SNP tests.            |  |

The Y DNA test evaluates 12, 25, 37 or 67 markers, the increased numbers providing more identification refinement and permutations within family lines. The program was well received by all in attendance.

Following the program, a raffle was held for a discount DNA testing certificate provided by Mr. Miller. The winner was Mrs. Nancy Jacobs.

The meeting was adjourned following the recessional and benediction by Gary Smith.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Taylor, Chapter Secretary.