

TJ Sentinel

December 2008 .. Issue 074



Thomas Jefferson Chapter of the Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution

Mark Your Calendars: The 2009 State SAR meeting will be 20-21 March in Topeka at the Ramada Inn. TJC is the host chapter. Orval Knodel is in charge of planning and would like your suggestions for program and entertainment ideas. Also volunteers are needed to help. Plan now to attend.

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Captain John Baker Patriot Ancestor of Phillip L. Baker, MD

John Baker was born in Germany in the Palatinate region. On September 24, 1754 he immigrated to America on the ship *Brothers*. Reportedly he entered non-qualified or indentured. About 1760 he married Elizabeth Ann Sullivan, the daughter of a Revolutionary War physician. In 1765 the couple traveled west on the Old Warrior Trail later called the Great Wagon Road and south to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. In 1767 the family moved west along the Nemaocolin Road, the western portion of the Old Warrior Trail that was later called Braddock's Road and settled on Dunkard Creek in Greene County, Pennsylvania. At the time of Dunmore's War in 1774 the family moved for protection to Redstone Old Fort at Brownsville, Pennsylvania.

On July 31, 1777 the Ohio County, Virginia militia was established. Captain John Baker was in the service of the militia for much of the time during the War. His service was listed in the *Patriot Index* as a "Captain, 11th VA Regiment at Redstone Fort under Colonel Silas Hedges, Reg. Militia." After the end of the Revolutionary War the family

Next Meeting: Dec. 13th
West Dining Hall
Aldersgate Village
8:00 am <Breakfast>
8:45 am <Presentation: TBA>

For attendance at the meeting, please respond to Brian Vazquez at sarbmvsbcglobal.net."

Please remember to save and donate any extra 2009 calendars to the VA.

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moved to Catfish Camp, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

In 1784 Captain John Baker established Baker's Station on Cresap Bottom just south of Wheeling. This area had originally been surveyed by George Washington and George Rogers Clark. This region was called Cresap Bottom and named for Thomas Cresap the famous frontiersman and trader. Baker's Station was established for the protection of the local settlers during the time of Indian attacks and did not have regular military garrison. The Station was located on the Old Warriors trail that led into Ohio at one of the crossings of the Ohio River to Powhattan Point where Indian raids into Virginia often began.

The location of Baker's Station is marked by the State of West Vir-

TJC webpage:

http://members.cox.net/tjchptrtopekaks/TJC_SAR.htm

ginia as an historical site. The sign along Route # 2 states: "BAKER'S STATION. Site of blockhouse built by Captain John Baker in 1784. Rendezvous of scouts along Indian path from Muskingum Valley into Virginia. Near by are buried Captain John Baker, John Wetzel, and others killed by Indians in 1787."

In 1787 Captain John Baker crossed the Ohio River following an Indian party. Captain Baker was shot but not killed by the Indians and his eyes were gouged and left for dead. Captain Baker was brought back to Baker's Station where he died and was buried along a stream called Grave Yard Run. This area was later covered by slag heaps of an industrial site but his grave marker was moved to the Military Section of the Riverview Cemetery, Moundsville, West Virginia.

His wife, Elizabeth, moved with children to Ohio where she died on May 22, 1836 at the age of 92 and was buried in the Stead Cemetery, Woodsfield, Monroe County, Ohio. Elizabeth Baker is established as a Patriot of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the First Families of Ohio, and the First Families of Monroe County, Ohio.

Submitted by Phillip L. Baker, MD, Topeka, KS

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President: Brian Vazquez

Guests: Suzanne Gray, Theresa Klotzbach, Wayne Wasson

Minutes: Members and guests of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met for breakfast in the west-dining hall at Aldersgate on November 8, 2008. There were 15 members and 3 guests present. Following the breakfast, members and guests met in the Wesley Auditorium.

Compatriot Ramon Powers opened the meeting and called upon the Chapter Color Guard, consisting of Compatriots Brian Vazquez, Martin Klotzbach, John Saylor, Roger Johnson and Freeman Vicory, to present the Colors. Compatriot Powers then called on Compatriot Elborn Mendenhall to give the invocation. Compatriot Powers then led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag and the pledge to SAR. President Brian

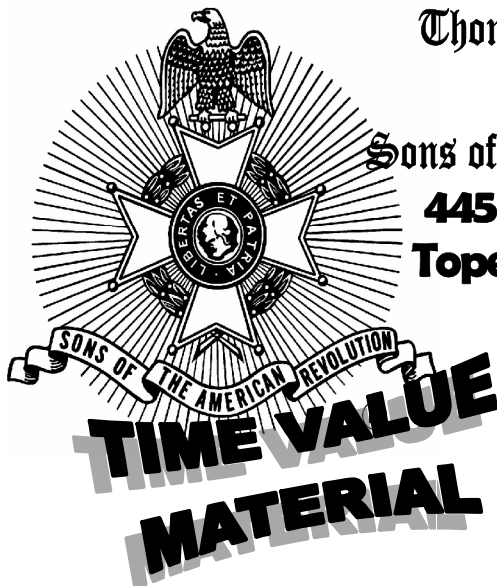
Vazquez then asked Compatriot Jim McHenry to introduce the speaker. Compatriot McHenry discussed the VA volunteer program and his experience as a volunteer. He then introduced Suzanne Gray, Volunteer Coordinator for the VA, who discussed volunteer opportunities and patient needs. After the presentation, Ms Gray took questions from the members and guests. Compatriot Klotzbach then asked the members for donations to the VA and moved that a minimum of \$60 be donated. Compatriot Ramon Powers seconded the motion and it was approved by the members. A total of \$75 was donated at the meeting and given to Ms Gray.

President Vazquez then asked Compatriot Roger Johnson to present the minutes of the October 2008, Chapter meeting and introduce guests. Compatriot Klotzbach moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Compatriot Elborn Mendenhall and approved by the members. Compatriot Klotzbach then discussed the November State SAR BOG meeting and noted that Compatriot Barney Ellis is running for election as Secretary General of SAR, that donations are being sought for the State Heritage Fund and the remodeling of the National SAR

Heritage Center and Compatriot Klotzbach asked that members e-mail to him a list of any SAR medals that they had received and the dates received.

President Vasquez then asked Compatriot Richard Kleinschmidt to give the Treasurer's report. Compatriot Kleinschmidt mentioned the fund raising activities for the 2013 National SAR convention to be held in Kansas City and the collection of 2009 dues. He then reported that the Chapter had \$2,405.35 of income and \$2,340.35 in expenses for the period October 11, 2008, to November 8, 2008, and an ending checking account balance of \$3,060.75 at November 8, 2008. In addition the Chapter had certificates of deposit of \$3,820.85 at November 8, 2008.

President Vazquez then noted no committee reports and mentioned the need for a replacement for Compatriot Freeman Vicory as membership chairman. President Vazquez asked for any reports on shut-in members and noted that the wife of Compatriot Barney Ellis had recently passed away. Compatriot Art Malle mentioned that a PBS special "Ten Crucial Days" was under written by National SAR. With the conclusion of business, President Vazquez gave the SAR recessional and the meeting was adjourned.



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