



# COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Number 3

February 2011

Welcome to this issue of your Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR newsletter. The Colorado River, Red, White & Blue is an official publication of the Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR.

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter and the updates and information it provides.

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### In Memorandum

In our last newsletter we failed to recognize the passing of one our members. Donald K. Williams joined the Colorado River Chapter in November 2009. His Patriot ancestor was Thomas Camp, Jr, who was a Private in the 4<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Regiment during the Revolutionary War. The Chapter is sending a certificate to his family.

### Obit

Compatriot Donald Kenneth Williams of Parker, AZ passed away on October 5, 2010 in San Dimas, CA at the home of his daughter. He was born on February 17, 1945 in Fontana, CA. Don was a very proud veteran of the U.S. Navy and his time of service in Vietnam. He is survived by daughters Malenkov McDowell and Jody Fox and sister Darlene Bonham. He is also survived by several grandchildren, niece Gabriel Nicotra, nephew Brad Gates and special friend Jackie Schools. Memorial services were held for Don on October 16, 2010.

### Upcoming Events

Our Chapter will have four members and spouses in attendance at the DAR/SAR annual joint meeting in Kingman hosted by the Lewis Kingman Chapter NSDAR.

Invitees to this annual meeting of Colorado River Chapters of the DAR/SAR are Lewis Kingman Chapter NSDAR, Havasu Chapter NSDAR, Fort Mohave Chapter NSDAR, Yuma Chapter NSDAR, and Colorado River Chapter NSSAR. These meetings are always informative and we will report here on the meeting in our next Newsletter.

This joint meeting will take the place of our regular February meeting. The next Colorado River Chapter meeting will be March 12<sup>th</sup> in Lake Havasu City.

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### Installation of 2011 Officers

As you will remember at our November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting the Chapter elected officers for the 2011 year. In accordance with NSSAR by-laws these officers were installed at our December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting:



Photo: L to R – President Donald Reighard, Secretary/Treasurer Timothy Keith, Registrar/Genealogist Jimmie Bodenhamer, Chaplain Ronald Smith

357 veterans to medical appointments and driven 44,502 miles.



Photo: L to R – President Don Reighard, Jimmie Bodenhamer holding medal/certificate, Tim Keith Veterans Committee Chairman, and Ron Smith Chaplain



Photo: President, and Vice President Ray Lackey

The second award was the “War Service Medal” in recognition of his service in the Army during the Vietnam War. Jimmie as a member of the Kansas National Guard was mobilized and served in Vietnam from November 1968 to November 1969 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4th Infantry Division.

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## Award Presentations

At the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting the Colorado River Chapter awarded two veteran’s related awards to member Jimmie L Bodenhamer.

The first award was the “Service to Veterans Medal” for his service/support of our veterans. Jimmie, as a Volunteer Driver for the Veterans Transportation Network that is supported by the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the VA, has driven Veterans from Northern Mohave County to medical appointments at VA hospitals in Prescott and Phoenix since 2005. Between 2005/2009 Jimmie contributed 1,493 hours of volunteer service while transporting



Photo: L to R – President Don Reighard, Jimmie Bodenhamer holding medal/certificate, Tim Keith Veterans Committee Chairman, and Ron Smith Chaplain

Member should remember that the NSSAR offers many awards to members for their service and other patriotic activities and members should be recognized for that service.

## Chapter Monthly Meetings

At our January meeting officers and members present discussed the possibility of going back to rotating meeting locations between Kingman and Lake Havasu City.

In the past the Chapter had rotated meeting locations monthly, but due to reduced attendance from Kingman members we have for the past several months held meetings only in Lake Havasu City.

The Chapter is therefore considering a rotating meeting schedule which would start in the spring and looking at using the Mohave Library in Kingman as a location.

Would this rotating of meeting location interest you? Would you attend if some meetings were in Kingman? Please let your officers know if this interests you. We will advise if we begin meetings in Kingman.



## Member Birthdays

### February

Thomas Nelson – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Ronald Smith – 25<sup>th</sup>

### March

James McConnell – 4<sup>th</sup>  
J. Michael Jones – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Ray Lackey – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Donald Reighard – 29<sup>th</sup>  
Jimmie Bodenhamer – 29<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to all and hope you have a Great Birthday!

## Our Patriot Ancestors

This section provides a look at one of our members' SAR Patriot ancestor's service to this country during the Revolutionary War. It will help us remember our Revolutionary War heroes and Patriots we honored when we joined the SAR.

The order chosen is based on member birthdays starting in January. This month's Patriot will be the ancestor of Thomas Nelson. I hope you enjoy this brief look at an American hero!

### Patriot Ancestor of Thomas Nelson

Benjamin Perry (the son of Benjamin Perry and his wife Elizabeth) was born November 1752 in Spotsylvania County, Virginia (located west of Fredericksburg, Virginia). Benjamin married Mary Head and they had 14 children of which their son George is Thomas's ancestor.

Benjamin first enlisted in the Continental Army at Spotsylvania County, Virginia on April 17, 1781 and was drafted as a Private in the Virginia Militia under Captain Legg for six months. His company then moved east to Fredericksburg, Virginia where they were assigned to a Regiment of Virginia troops under Colonel Winslow. This regiment was attached to a brigade that was part of the army commanded by General Lafayette that was located along the Potomac River. Benjamin's company prepared to participate in a major campaign at the Battle of York against the British Army. Prior to beginning of the march towards Yorktown, the army led by General Washington joined General Lafayette army. This combined army then moved toward the British Army of Lord Cornwallis and the Siege of Yorktown (Sept-Oct 1781). Benjamin then had the honor of serving under the command of Generals Washington and Lafayette as he participated in the Battle of York and was present at the farm house outside of Yorktown where General Cornwallis' army surrendered.

Benjamin reenlisted for three months in Dec 1781 under Captain Craig, serving in Tennessee and Kentucky and as a part of the garrison of the fort at

Bryan's Station (near Lexington, Kentucky) defending against Indian attacks.

In April 1782 and Spring 1783 Benjamin re-enlisted for a total of ten months serving as an Indian Spy stationed at Bryan's Station under Captain Dudley. During this service he participated in Indian battles in and around Lexington, Kentucky in the counties of Lafayette, Scott, Clark, Bourdon, Franklin, and Harrison. In addition to time spent at Bryan Station he spent time at Ashton Station, Boone Stations and Stroud's Station on the western Indian frontier.

Benjamin's eldest son and his grandson married daughters of Morgan Bryan, one of the brothers who founded the settlement of Bryan's Station 1775/76. As Benjamin was a Baptist, and persecuted in Virginia for refusal to join the State Anglican church, he had taken his family to Kentucky with him. Acting as a surveyor and spy, he chose the land on which to build his plantation after the war, founded the town of Port Royal, Henry County, Kentucky, and the Cane Run Baptist Church. Family members still live on the original plantation and two of his sons were river boat captains on the Ohio River.

Benjamin Perry applied for a pension for his service in the Revolutionary War on September 17, 1833, while living in Henry County, Kentucky. He died on May 11, 1839. At the time of his death eleven of his children were still living. Benjamin and Mary, his wife, are buried in the Port Royal Baptist Cemetery, located behind the church they founded and where he served as Deacon.

Sources – Thomas Nelson, original SAR approved application, Footnote.com (pension application papers), and Ancestry.com.

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## Current Officers

Donald Reighard – President – (928) 680-4087

Ray Lackey – Vice President – (928) 754-1941

Tim Keith – Secretary/Treasurer – (928) 302-1279

Ron Smith – Chaplain – (928) 680-7924

Jimmie Bodenhamer – Registrar/Genealogist – (928) 692-6636

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## Membership

If you need assistance with a membership issue, or know someone interesting in joining the NSSAR, please provide me the contact information and I will work the issue for you.

Jimmie Bodenhamer, Registrar/Genealogist, 5805 N Cedar Ridge Lane, Kingman, AZ 86409-9345, [jimmieb@frontiernet.net](mailto:jimmieb@frontiernet.net), (928) 692-6636.

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## Meeting Reminder

Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR monthly meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the Mohave County Library, 1770 McCulloch Boulevard North(K-Mart Plaza), Lake Havasu City, AZ at 11:00.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> in Lake Havasu City.

Hope to see you at a future Chapter meeting.

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## Newsletter Editor

Hope you enjoyed this newsletter and I look forward to any comments or suggestion for future newsletters. Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR: Jimmie Bodenhamer, Editor, [jimmieb@frontiernet.net](mailto:jimmieb@frontiernet.net).

Need another copy of this Newsletter – it is on our AZSSAR website link.