



Silicon Valley Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



Founded as the Palo Alto Chapter in 1955



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Important Events

September 16, 2006
Next Chapter Meeting

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California Family
History Month at
Santa Clara Library

November 3-4, 2006
CASSAR 131st Fall
Managers' Meeting

November 11, 2006
San Jose Veterans'
Day Parade

December 9, 2006
Christmas Social

Independence Day Observance

The photograph shows Compatriot Jack Mallory, SVSAR Chairman of Social Events, as the Master of Ceremonies speaking at the July 4, 2006 Independence Day Observance at Azule City Park, Saratoga, California. Compatriot Jack created, organized and led this program over the last five years with the support and help of his wife, Susanne. The Day Observance was The 2006 Independence another big success at- ple, and truly celebrating supporting Compatriot members in attendance Robert D. Ebert, CAS- A. Smart, SVSAR Presi- SVSAR Past President, Registrar, and Chris Guard Commander.



The Saratoga photographed and video- you would like to view scriptions about this ex- based, 2006 Independence Day Observance, please access the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce website at <http://saratogachamber.org/calendar/4july/4jul2006.htm>

If you would like to view a citizen's letter of appreciation for Compatriot Jack's patriotic efforts, please access the Silicon Valley Community Newspapers - Saratoga News website at <http://www.svcn.com/archives/saratoganews/20060712/index.shtml>. Once at the website click on "Speak Out" under Letters and Opinions. The citizen's letter of appreciation is the second letter in the Speak Out section.

Congratulations to Jack Mallory for a job well done!





Color Guard

Who are those handsome men in uniform? From left to right, the photograph shows Compatriot Chris Palmer, SVSAR Color Guard SVSAR Past President, and Compatriot the July 4, 2006 Independence Day Ob-California. Compatriot Robert is a of Liberty Chapter and wears the uni-Life Guards. These three Compatriots rung thirteen times to represent the mony. Later they marched in the compendence Day Observance was created, Mallory with the support and help of his Smart, SVSAR President, and Compa-were also there to support the Color Guard and the program.



Commander, Compatriot John R. Kohli, Robert D. Ebert, CASSAR President at servance at Azule City Park, Saratoga, member of the Color Guard of the Sons form of General George Washington's are shown behind the bell, which was original thirteen colonies in the ceremony parade. The July 4, 2006 Inde-organized and led by Compatriot Jack wife, Susanne. Compatriot Charles A. triot Terry Briggs, SVSAR Registrar,

Commercial Real Estate; Remodeled Tavern For a New Century

By
David W. Dunlap

Don't expect squirrel pie.

Fraunces Tavern, which has been in business on and off for 239 years, is to reopen by July 4. Under the new lease, the Sons of the at 54 Pearl Street, will exercise unusual control over the restaurant, "primarily American."

The lease requires that the ern, but the landlord retains all claims It calls for the proprietors to invest building, to keep the restaurant open on the menu for historical notes about George Washington tearfully bade Revolutionary War.



Revolution, owners of the landmark right down to cuisine, which must be

restaurant be called Fraunces Tav-on the "Fraunces Tavern" trademark. money in rehabilitating the on weekends and to set aside space the tavern, where, in 1783, General farewell to his officers after the

But the Sons will not push ye envelope too far.

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Commercial Real Estate; Remodeled Tavern For a New Century (continued from page 2)

"To try to tell an operator that they have to run a Colonial tavern is not realistic," said Robert N. McKay, chairman of the organization's real estate committee. "That's not what Wall Streeters want to eat. Today, people don't want to eat squirrel pie."

Keeping that in mind, some West Indies dishes will be added to the menu in honor of Samuel Fraunces's birthplace, said Michael S. Rakusin, one of the new proprietors.

That should be fine, said Peter Figdor of the law firm Salans Hertzfeld Heilbronn Christy & Viener, who represented the Sons of the Revolution in the transaction. "If they're conducting a first-class operation, there's going to be a fair amount of latitude," he said.

Mr. Rakusin, a certified public accountant in Chelsea Cafe on West 27th Street and formerly had a share of Sweet Basil, 88 Seventh Avenue South. His partners at Fraunces Tavern are Vincent J. DeSimone, chairman and chief executive of DeSimone Consulting Engineers in Manhattan, and Damon D. Testaverde, an investment banker in Staten Island.



who have an 11-year lease, the building, not only to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act, but also because Mr. Rakusin learned firsthand how difficult it can be to navigate the city after his father was crippled by a stroke.

The renovation is being designed by SBLM Architects of Manhattan.

Mr. Rakusin and his partners will replace the Norden family, which operated the restaurant from 1937 through 1999. The later years were characterized by lawsuits - including a battle over rights to the name Fraunces Tavern, which went all the way to the Supreme Court - and some mediocre reviews.

"Washington had his last dinner with his officers here, but that shouldn't oblige you to eat yours here too," said the 1987 Zagat survey. "That dinner may have been the last successful meal served in this historic tavern."

Dr. Laurence Simpson, president of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, said that about 40 prospective operators responded to a request for proposals last year, ranging from pizza parlors to one of the city's better-known restaurateurs. The group that was chosen distinguished itself by coming equipped with architectural plans.

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Commercial Real Estate; Remodeled Tavern For a New Century (continued from page 3)

While each room will have a slightly different character, a vaguely Federal quality will be maintained throughout, with chair rails and molding added in some places and wallpaper taken down in others.

"This is the original theme restaurant," said J. David Wilkerson II, an associate in SBLM. "This is not make-believe. This is not Disney."

No, it's Fraunces, Samuel Fraunces. In 1762, he hung out a shingle at Pearl and Broad Streets for the Queen's Head Tavern, honoring Charlotte Sophia of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the wife of George III.

After 1776, the name ing appeal. By the time of Wash-eyewitness account by Colonel the setting as "Francis' tavern in

Fraunces himself went on Washington's household when the new Constitution. He accom-phia in 1790 and died there five name would one day be a feder-(No. 1280950).



"queen" lost a lot of its market-ington's farewell in 1783, an Benjamin Tallmadge referred to Pearl Street."

to serve as steward of President New York was the capital under panied the president to Philadel-years later, not knowing that his ally registered service mark

The Pearl Street tavern was acquired in 1904 by the Sons of the Revolution, who are descendants of those who fought for independence from 1775 to 1783, or of civilians who risked arrest and punishment during this period for their activities on behalf of the new nation.

By the time they acquired the building, it had been altered beyond recognition. So the organization undertook a reconstruction. Because there were no 18th-century views of the tavern, the 1907 design was almost entirely conjectural. But the resulting four-story structure has an amiable if inauthentic charm. Bruce Barraclough, who manages the building, said its foundations date to 1719, when it was built for Etienne DeLancey.

Over time, the Sons acquired four adjoining buildings, 58 Pearl Street, 101 Broad Street, and 24 and 26 Water Street, which together make up the Fraunces Tavern complex. The restaurant occupies the ground floor of all five buildings.

The Anglers' Club of New York, 101 Broad Street, is the only other tenant. The club and tavern were both damaged in January 1975 when a bomb went off at lunchtime, killing 4 people and injuring more than 60 others. The F.A.L.N., a Puerto Rican nationalist group, claimed responsibility for the attack.

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Commercial Real Estate; Remodeled Tavern For a New Century (continued from page 4)

The Sons of the Revolution offices are upstairs, as is a museum operated by the organization, its galleries brimming with early American flags, paintings, prints, utensils, furnishings, documents and decorative art. (The museum is temporarily closed to ease the restaurant renovation. It is expected to reopen in late spring.)

When a place like Fraunces Tavern undergoes a housecleaning, remarkable objects emerge. An uncatalogued sword belonging to Governor George Clinton was ferreted out of the archives and is now mounted on the mantel of the room that bears his name. Governor Clinton gave a banquet at the tavern on Evacuation Day, Nov. 25, 1783, when British troops withdrew from New York.

Far more extraordinary was the diary of Colonel Tallmadge furnished generations of historians with a poignant personal account of Wash-



About 9 1/2 by 7 1/2 bleized covers, it was at the old audiovisual equipment until three weeks ago," Dr.

Dr. Simpson, a dentist with a practice on East 32nd Street, can recount with precision and evident pride the trail forged by his great-great-great-grandfather, Corporal Thomas Simpson, who fought under George Rogers Clark in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.

nary was the rediscovery of madge (1754-1835), which torians with a poignant per-ton's leave-taking.

inches, bound between mar-bottom of a closet under some "We didn't know we had it Simpson said.

tist with a practice on East precision and evident pride

So he invested an inspection of the Tallmadge diary with appropriate drama, seated in the recreated Long Room, where the actual parting ceremony took place Dec. 4, 1783. Dr. Simpson's white-gloved finger lightly traced the air over Page 102 of the handwritten account as he read:

"In almost breathless silence, the General filled his glass with wine and, turning to the officers, he said, 'With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable.' "

Dr. Simpson looked up for a moment. "That always sends shivers through me," he said. Mr. McKay, in accord, tapped his heart lightly and nodded.

Dr. Simpson continued reading.

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Commercial Real Estate; Remodeled Tavern For a New Century (continued from page 5)

"General Knox, being nearest to him, turned to the Commander-in-Chief, who suffused in tears was incapable of utterance, but grasped his hand, when they embraced each other in silence. In the same affectionate . . ."

Colonel Tallmadge's handwriting grew hard to decipher; "manner," Mr. McKay said, looking over Dr. Simpson's shoulder.

"In the same affection manner every officer in the room . . ."

"marched up to be kissed . . ."

"Marched up to be kissed and parted with his General-in-Chief. Such a scene of sorrow and weeping I had never before witnessed, and I hope I may never be called upon to witness again."

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