



CHRONICLE OF THE AZTEC CLUB OF 1847

Military Society of the Mexican War

www.aztecclub.com

Fall, 2000

Our 153RD Year

Editor: Rick Breithaupt

Fred Hunt

27 November 1912 - 14 May 2000

On 14 May 2000 Frederick Talley Drum Hunt passed away after a long illness. He was 87 years of age.

Born at Bethesda, Maryland, Fred lived his entire life in the Washington area except for periods of government service. He attended Western High School and George Washington University, where he earned a B. A. in 1935. His many years of government service began in the Division of Press Intelligence in 1933. In 1936 he entered the U. S. Foreign Service, first in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

Fred served as an Assistant Trade Commissioner in London in 1937, followed by similar duty in Bucharest in 1939. In June, 1939 he was commissioned as a Foreign Service Officer. In November, 1939 he was appointed Vice Consul and Third Secretary at the Embassy in Bucharest.

As circumstance would have it, Fred witnessed first hand many of the events leading to World War II. While serving as Vice Consul in Shanghai, in 1941, he was detained at the outbreak of the war. During this detainment, and his subsequent evacuation from the orient, he was able to photograph and prepare reports successfully smuggled out to help America's war effort. He was assigned to Lorenzo Marques in 1942, followed by Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth in 1943, after which he returned to Lorenzo Marques.

He returned to Washington briefly before being assigned as Consul in Nuevo Laredo in October, 1944. It was during this assignment that, while viewing a parade, he first cast his eyes on his future wife, Eleanor.

Fred was appointed Consul at Martinique in 1947 and remained there until returning to Washington in October, 1948. Following his retirement from government service, Fred was employed as a foreign trade consultant.

A descendant of Lt. Ephraim Hunt, 9th MA Line, an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati, and Maj. Gen. Henry Jackson Hunt and Col. Richard Coulter Drum, both original members of the Aztec Club and of the Loyal Legion, Fred was especially active in these organizations for many years. He became a member of the Aztec Club in 1946.

ANNUAL MEETING SET

Chevy Chase, Maryland

October 14, 2000

The 153rd Annual Meeting of the Aztec Club of 1847 will be held at Chevy Chase Country Club, Chevy Chase, Maryland on Saturday evening, October 14th. The business meeting will commence at 6:00 pm followed by a reception at 7:00 pm and banquet dinner at 8:00 pm. [White tie, black tie, mess dress or uniform, with decorations.] Spouses and invited guests are welcome.

Lt. Col. Richard A. Johnson, USA (Ret.), a Fellow of the Company of Military Historians, will be the featured speaker. A graduate of the U. S. Military Academy, Col. Johnson later earned an M. S. in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from the University of Chicago. He retired from the Army in 1966 after twenty years of active duty in Europe, Korean, Iran and Vietnam. Following eight years in the private sector, he returned to government service with the Federal Energy Administration, later part of the Department of Energy, in Washington. Col. Johnson transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey and then the Minerals Management Service, part of the Department of Interior. He retired in 1987 and became a part time dealer in American military antiques.

An avid U.S. military history enthusiast, Col. Johnson has studied and collected pre-1900 military arms for fifty years. Speaking on "Presentation and Identified Mexican War Swords", he will have eight swords to display and describe. Six are presentations and two have the officer's name engraved on their blade.

Cost for the dinner is \$50.00 per person. Reservations are required and must be received by the Treasurer on the enclosed form with payment not later than September 30th. Please make checks payable to the Aztec Club of 1847.

He served the Club as Secretary, 1956-1960; President, 1960-1962, and Treasurer, 1961-1963. He remained an active member of the Executive Committee until his death.

Fred and Eleanor Hunt attended the Club's commemorative trip to Mexico City in 1972 and returned 25 years later, in October, 1997, at age 85 as part of the Club's delegation celebrating its 150th Anniversary. He assisted with the wreath laying at the *Monumento de los Niños Héroes*, and at activities from Querétaro, to the Aztec ruins, and on to Vera Cruz over the two week trip.

Fred's son, Fred, Jr., became a member of the Club in 1970. Another milestone was reached in 1999 when his oldest grandson, Andrew, was elected to membership, thereby establishing three generations in membership at one time.

Fred is survived by his lovely wife, Eleanor, son Fred, Jr., and two grandsons. He will be greatly missed by all.

Joseph Wright Stanley

(1913-1999)

Joseph Wright Stanley, 86, a trial lawyer who retired from the antitrust division of the Justice Department in 1972, died 31 December 1999 at his home in Washington. He served the Club as Vice President, 1985-1987, and President, 1987-1990.

Joe was born in St. Louis and raised in Washington. He was a graduate of Harvard University and Suffolk University Law School. During World War II, he was assigned by the Army to the Office of Strategic Services in the Mediterranean theater. He retired as a lieutenant colonel, U. S. Army Reserve, in 1963.

He was elected to membership in the Club in 1977 by right of descent from Maj. Joseph Jefferson Burr Wright, Medical Staff, Scott's Army, USA.

Among Joe's other activities were membership in the Society of Colonial Wars, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, Military Order of the Carabao, Sons of the American Revolution, Veterans of OSS, Chevy Chase Club, Metropolitan Club, Army Navy Club and the American Legion.

His wife, Julienne Cahill Stanley, died in 1988. His survivors include his daughter, Florence C. Stanley, of Washington, and several nieces and nephews. Services were held at Stanley Hall Chapel, U. S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home. The hall and chapel were built in 1985 and named for Joe's grandfather, Brig. Gen. David S. Stanley, Governor of the Home, 1893-1898. Joe's father, Col. David S. Stanley, served as Quartermaster of the Home, 1923-1941, where Joe resided as a child.

Members Elected Since Last Issue

William Courtney Fleenor

2nd Lt. Jefferson Taliafero
3rd Missouri Mounted Vols.

Charles English Henderson*

2nd Lt. Edward Lafayette Hardcastle
Topographic Engineers, USA

Edward Money Henderson*

2nd Lt. Edward Lafayette Hardcastle
Topographic Engineers, USA

John Mauk Hilliard

Lt. John A. Merrifield
Kentucky Vols.

Gerald Ignatius Jack**

Capt. James W. Gillespie
Tennessee Mounted Vols.

Philip Robert Livingston, III***

2nd Lt. Schulyer Hamilton
1st Infantry, USA

Francis Persse Powers, Jr., MD

Capt. Richard Owens
California Vols.

*Son of Club member Hughlett Money Henderson.

** Elected in 1998.

*** Son of Club member Philip R. Livingston, Jr.

GONE FOR SOLDIERS

A Novel by Jeff Shaara
Ballantine Books, NY, 2000. \$22.95

Reviewed by

CAPT Thomas Jefferson Turpin, USN, (Ret)

This thoroughly enjoyable novel about the war with Mexico focuses primarily on the activities of Captain Robert E. Lee, from preparations for the Vera Cruz landing through the occupation of the Mexican capital city, and on Lee's relationship with Winfield Scott, who employed Lee as his principal scout.

The author skillfully relates the probable thoughts of the main characters to portray the personalities attributed to them by history, which creates for the reader the illusion of actually witnessing the exciting and sometimes terrible events of the war.

Although Lee and Scott dominate the story, there are fascinating and little known factual accounts of the daring and gallant activities of many of the junior officers who were destined to play major roles in the conflict which nearly destroyed our young country only fourteen years later. These accounts, enhanced by the author's skill at story telling, will be of special interest and enjoyment to those of our members who are descended from them. The book ends with a postscript describing the post-1847 lives of the main participants

Shaara's insight into the personality of General Santa Anna and the reasons for his tactical blunders are revealing and give ample proof of Shaara's excellent research. The Mexican leader was an avid student of Napoleon and favored massive frontal attack. To his great misfortune, he also expected the Americans to do the same. Winfield Scott was not about to oblige him.

Jeff Shaara's late father, Michael Shaara, authored the Pulitzer Prize winning Civil War story *The Killer Angels*, and Jeff 's two previous novels, *Gods and Generals* and *The Last Full Measure*, are *New York Times* best sellers.

Los Angeles' Newest Metro Station Depicts Mexican War Through Art

In June, 2000, the newest subway station in the Los Angeles Metro Rail project opened at Campo de Cahuenga, across the street from Universal Studios Hollywood. It was on this site, on January 12, 1847, where Treaty of Cahuenga was signed ending the Mexican War in the west. The Aztec Club held its spring meeting at the Campo in May, 1994.

Colorful glazed tile depicts the early history of California, from its founding through its becoming part of the United States. Text of the permanent exhibit, constructed into the very walls of the subterranean station, is both in English and Spanish. As patrons descend the escalator from ground level into the station, a large time line is presented. Upon entering the embarkation area visitors encounter colorful art depicting the early history of California, by artist Margaret Garcia.

Events leading to and through the Mexican War are the dominant theme of the exhibit. Color photographs of the artwork can be seen on the Internet at the Aztec Club web site, some of which are reproduced on the next page of *The Chronicle*.

Among the individual portraits are: President James K. Polk; Commodores Thomas ap Catesby Jones, John Drake Sloat, and Robert Field Stockton; Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny; Col. John C. Fremont; Christopher "Kit" Carson and Edward Beale. Mexican leaders depicted include Gov. Pio Pico and Gen. Andreas Pico.

**Did you know the Aztec Club web site
is a featured site of The History Channel?**



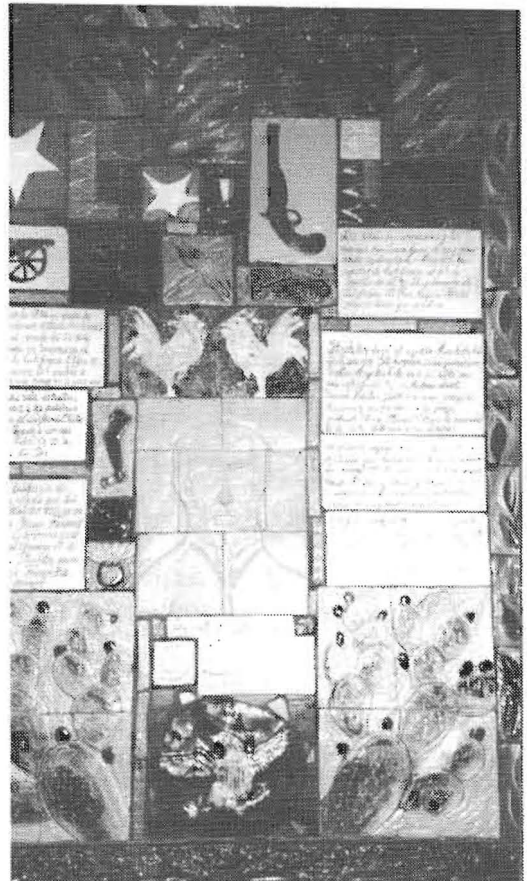
Don Andrés Pico



James K. Polk and John C. Frémont



Stephen Watts Kearny



Robert F. Stockton

INSIGNIA AVAILABLE



Our membership medal is simply exquisite, struck from a recently new set of dies engraved by artisans for Bailey, Banks & Biddle using an original Aztec Club medal as a model.

The 1½" medal, suspended from a Mexican green and blue ribbon, bears on its obverse the Mexican Eagle and wording *City of Mexico — Army of Occupation* in high relief over green enamel. The reverse depicts an American Eagle and wording *Aztec Club — U. S. Army 1847* over red enamel. Pricing, which is subject to change, is as follows:

Full Size Medal

Silver, w/Gold Plating	\$ 85.00
Gold Filled*	\$ 90.00
10K Gold	\$ 515.00
14K Gold	\$ 730.00
Bronze, w/ Gold Plating	\$ 40.00
Silver, w/ Gold Plating	\$ 45.00
Gold Filled*	\$ 50.00
10K Gold	\$ 150.00
14K Gold	\$ 180.00

*Recommended for those not ordering 10K or 14K.

Medals are special-order items requiring written authorization from the Club. Contact the Treasurer or President for an Authorization Chit.

AVAILABLE FROM THE TREASURER

Blazer Patch	\$ 35.00
Lapel Pin	\$ 45.00
Lapel Pin -- Reproduction of 1880's pin	\$10.00
Tie (four-in-hand)	\$ 35.00

Ties are made of finest silk in Aztec Club colors.

SESQUICENTENNIAL HISTORY AVAILABLE

Sesquicentennial History \$ 89.95 + \$10.00 shipping

Printed on acid-free paper, hardbound, with gold foil embossing and handsome dust jacket. 1505 pages. ISBN: 1886085056.

Order the Sesquicentennial History at:
Aztec Club of 1847
Box 8454, Universal City, CA 91618-8454



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**Founded by the Officers of the U. S. Army
Mexico City — October 13, 1847**