

M I N N E S O T A

# SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • [www.MinnesotaSAR.org](http://www.MinnesotaSAR.org) • SUMMER 2015



## NINTH ANNUAL C.A.R. PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Wayzata, MN – The MNSAR Color Guard and the Seventh Pennsylvania participated in flag raising and the veteran ceremonies during the ninth annual C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast held at the historic Wayzata Depot on Independence Day. The annual event features the “Flying Pancakes” where recipients stand back as their pancakes are tossed from the grill onto their plates. The weather was perfect and a record number of 1,350 people were served.

Ten World War II and Korean War veterans were honored during the event. Mayor Wilcox of Wayzata and Major General Bob Shadley recognized each honored veteran. The Lake Minnetonka Children of the American Revolution originated, produce and man this annual family celebration, which fulfills their motto of, “Patriotism in Action”.

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American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society  
Sons of the American Revolution  
2700 East Minnehaha Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743





## 2015 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



### Flag Certificates

On Flag Day four Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing patriotism and love of country by flying the flag. This years recipients were:

- McGough Construction, St. Paul
- Metro Sound and Lighting, St. Paul
- Showtime Fabrication, Lindstrom
- TLC Electronics, Mahtomedi

The Saint Paul Chapter is grateful to its president, John McCallum for presenting the certificates. A fifth recipient, Ingenuity Concepts of Vadnais Heights, refused the award and ordered him off the premises. John has no idea why and was completely shocked by their actions.

### Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. There are seven college units and twelve high school units.

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following Compatriots for volunteering to present medals and certificates: John Sassaman, Hon. David Bouschor, Marvin Stonecipher, Dennis Croonquist, Robert Minish, Charles Boyles, Geoffrey Bodeau, Dean Shepersky, and John Hallberg Jones.

This was the final year for the JROTC unit at St. Thomas Academy. After 99 years in the program, they are returning to being a Military Institute, which teaches all the leadership and military courses, but not affiliated with the actual unit.

### Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2015. This Spring we awarded the medal in 25 area high schools as well as the Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country.

Medals were also awarded to eleven St. Paul area high school students this year.

The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service and an appreciation of patriotism.

### MNSAR Award Organizer Sought

The MNSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 25 Minneapolis area high schools and 17 ROTC units throughout Minnesota in addition to the work involved being the MNSAR and the Minneapolis Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. Help with one or both of these programs would be most appreciated. It would be an excellent way to be more involved in the MNSAR. If you are interested please contact John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612-721-4275.

## REMEMBERING JOHN ALLEY DOUGHERTY

Long ago member of the MNSAR, John Alley Dougherty, passed away April 30th, 2015. He was born March 1st, 1929 and is survived by husband Robert Hage, sisters Corine Ballard & Beverly Osuzik and niece Mary Raymon. John was a regular at Cahoots Coffee Bar regaling his cohorts with his stories and extensive knowledge gained during his 40 plus years working at the Minnesota History Center. He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered.

Dougherty joined the Minnesota Society SAR in 1951 and was dropped 2 years later in early 1954. He reinstated 52 years later in 2006. He was really only a member for about 11 years total. Had he stayed in he would have been a member for 64 years, but he didn't.

*Parts of this story are from the St. Paul Pioneer Press, May 17, 2015*

### NOTICE

NSSAR dues were increased by \$5.00 at the recent NSSAR Congress. Life Memberships are on hold until the new rates are calculated and confirmed. Our September dues notice mailing will include the new rates.

### Next Meeting

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 10, 2015. The speaker will be DAR member, Diane Plunkett Latham. Her topic will be about DNA testing.



## 2015 INDEPENDENCE DAY MNSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY



### July 4th C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast in Wayzata by the Waterfront.

– by Dennis Croonquist

It was very well attended as hundreds of people stood in line for pancakes and to honor the Day.

We arrived around 9 a.m. and while standing in line waiting to buy tickets, a woman in period dress, posed as the famed Molly Pitcher. She went down the line talking to kids and their parents. She gave a short history lesson on the Battle of Monmouth and kept us all entertained. As we neared the pancake kitchen we spotted a booth for the DAR. Several DAR ladies directed attendees to their booth and acted as guides while working the crowds. Next to them was the MNSAR color guard and near them were members of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. After we ate, we visited the color guard area where members were posing for pictures. A tent next to the color guard had an artifact display spread out on a ground cover. The Regiment guard enactor explained to the crowd how a musket is loaded and talked about how tough it was fighting the better equipped British army. He explained how our soldiers learned to fashion their own ammo cases, cups, bottles, knives, hemp carrying bags and lanterns that could withstand windy or wet weather. Toward the 11 o'clock hour the MNSAR Color Guard marched by drum beat from their staging area to the flag stand located on a scenic overlook. The color guard came to attention and lowered the colonial flag, then immediately following, they raised the American flag and the crowd was asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The formal program continued with the introduction of the Mayor of Wayzata, Ken Wilcox, a retired U.S. Navy Captain and Vietnam Veteran. Mayor Wilcox introduced several World War II and Korean War vets at center stage and the crowd thanked them all for their service. Shortly after the veterans were honored the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment came to formation and fired their muskets over the Lake. In all, it was a superb patriotic day.

## LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE

MNSAR C.A.R. Liaison Aaron Printup has made contact with the Senior State President and the committee receives the Fort Snelling Society and Minnesota C.A.R. newsletters. The Wayzata Society C.A.R. has already requested assistance with the 2016 Flying Pancake Breakfast.

The MNSAR Eagle Scout Liaison Stuart Markham indicated that envelopes containing information about the BSA/SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program are ready to be mailed.

Craig Whiting, the MNSAR DAR Liaison made contact with the Minnesota Society DAR officers who were installed this past June. Contact with the new State Regent has been made with a request to establish better communications. The Wayzata, Edina and Brainerd DAR Chapters will receive upcoming issues of the MNSAR newsletter.

The Color Guard Liaison Paul Kent Theisen reports that the MNSAR Color Guard has been invited by the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment to join them in the annual Ramsey Happy Days Parade this September.

... *American Eagle continued*

Without bothering to scout the enemy positions, Gates sent Generals Morgan, Glover and John Nixon in pursuit. Just as Morgan's and Nixon's troops had crossed Fishkill Creek and were climbing a hill, a deserter appeared to inform them that so far from being in retreat, the British were waiting for them with loaded cannon and muskets. Morgan and Nixon at once withdrew, after which, on October 12, Burgoyne had his staff sorrowfully concluded that there was nothing else to do but surrender. But when Burgoyne asked Gates for terms, Gates curtly replied that Burgoyne must surrender unconditionally. Infuriated, refusing to submit to such a disgrace, Burgoyne threatened to fight to the last man – whereupon Gates relented, and conditions were agreed upon.

Sources:

*George Washington's War*  
by Robert Leckie,  
*Harper Perennial, 1993*

*Revolutionary War Almanac,*  
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by John C. Fredriksen

*The American Heritage*  
*Book of The Revolution,*  
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### MNSAR Color Guard Blog

Visit the MNSAR Color Guard Blog at <http://www.sarmnecg.blogspot.com/> You may register your email address securely with the blog to receive updates.

# AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday October 18, 1777

## BRITISH SURRENDER AN ENTIRE ARMY

Saratoga, New York – British General John Burgoyne surrendered 5,728 men, 5,000 muskets, and 37 cannon to General Horatio Gates yesterday. The British troops marched out of their encampment with full honors of war, drums beating, fifes squealing, to stack arms. But even the usually stirring strains of “The British Grenadiers” failed to halt the flow of tears or lift sunken chins. Then they were to march to Boston and there await transportation to Britain. By this condition, said the British General John Burgoyne, trying to put the best possible face on his disastrous defeat, he had “saved” the army. These returning troops would be able to relieve those on duty at home, who could then be shipped to America.

When the surrender took place at two o’clock in the afternoon of October 17, 1777, Burgoyne seemed far from downcast, actually appearing to be the conqueror in costly regimentals bordered with gold and hat with streaming plumes, while the American commanding General, Horatio Gates, in a plain blue overcoat without insignia or braid, might have been the conquered. When they met, Burgoyne, looking like a dandy rather than a warrior, removed his plumed hat with a flourish, bowed – and said: “General the caprice of war has made me your prisoner.” Bowing in reply, Gates replied: “You will always find me ready to testify that it was not brought about through any fault of your excellency.”

For the first time in history an entire British army had been captured intact.

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The two battles of Saratoga on September 19 and October 7 were decisive victories for the American cause. Burgoyne’s gamble during the Battle of Bemis Heights had cost him another five hundred men, half of them captured. Among those were his beloved aide, Sir Francis Clerke, who lay dying in Gate’s headquarters tent while that coarse creature lectured him on the justice of the American Revolution. Upon Clerke’s feigning a smothered yawn, Gates snapped: “Did you ever see such an impudent son of a bitch?”

The day after the Battle of Bemis Heights, British General Fraser was buried in a ceremony of which Anbury noted: “The enemy with an inhumanity peculiar to Americans cannonaded the procession as it passed and during the service over the grave.” It is likely, however, that the rebels had no way of knowing that the formation they saw forming was a funeral cortege. There was some brief skirmishing that day, and that night Burgoyne decided that his position was no longer tenable, withdrawing during a heavy rain and abandoning his wounded and baggage. Baroness von Riedesel and her daughters moved with the army. She was dismayed when they stopped for the night, sitting disconsolately by a fire putting her children to bed.

“I am amazed at you!” Gen-



eral Philips cried. “Completely wet through, have you still the courage to go further in this weather? Would that you were ... our commanding general! He halts because he is tired, and intends to spend the night here and give us supper.”

Eventually the retreating army reached Saratoga, where Burgoyne, in an act inexplicable in a man of such courtesy and generosity, ordered Schuyler’s fine home burned to the ground. (General Philip Schuyler had been the commander of the Northern Army prior to Gates.) Then he made an attempt to push farther upriver, but was halted by Poor’s and Learned’s brigades, which had moved above the British and occupied high ground to the northwest. Burgoyne was in the bag, and the string was being drawn tight. Inside was an entire British army, frazzled indeed and down to only thirty-four hundred effectives, with about another two thousand unfit for duty for various reasons. But with it were all its paraphernalia – all its splendid

equipment,, its guns, wagons and horses – its ancient regiments rich with traditions and laden with battle flags, its three generals. Rations were down to three days’ supply, with the men already subsisting on half issues. A makeshift hospital, a converted mansion near the riverfront, was already filling up. The Baroness von Riedesel lived there in the cellar with her children, working by day in the hospital. Thinking it was a headquarters, the Americans shelled it. “Eleven cannon balls went through the house,” the Baroness stated, “and we could plainly hear them rolling overhead. One poor soldier, whose leg they were about to amputate, had the other leg taken off by another cannon ball in the middle of the operation.” By then she had given up all hope of escaping the American trap.

But not Burgoyne, preparing one more attempt to break free. A double agent was sent to Gates to inform him that the British had left for Fort Edward.

*continued inside...*