

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2000



Past President, Page Whitmore

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In the past two years as the Minnesota SAR President, I witnessed our member's individual projects. It has been wonderful to get to know many of you in this way. Thanks to the Minnesota Society for this honor and learning experience. My best wishes to everyone.— *Page Whitmore*

I look forward to my duties as your new President. I hope to meet all of our MNSAR members at upcoming meetings and events to hear your thoughts and ideas.— *Robert Mirick*



President, Robert Mirick

Nominating Committee Report
For 08 January, 2000

Now & Then

Rumbaugh Oration Contest
Nest Meeting and Joseph S.

The Lexington Restaurant
Annual Meeting Held at

President's Page

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...

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





MNSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE LEXINGTON RESTAURANT

The Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held the annual general meeting at The Lexington Restaurant in Saint Paul on Saturday, January 8, 2000. Luncheon was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by Page G. Whitmore, President, who led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and the Pledge to the SAR. Compatriot Paul Ostendorf offered the Invocation. The Society was then recessed and the Saint Paul Chapter and the Minneapolis Chapter conducted their business.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter, led by President Stephen Ernest, was called to order. Compatriot Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 1999 and five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who regularly fly the flag.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter President, David Douglas Stevenson, called the Minneapolis Chapter to order. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal

Program was presented in 26 area high schools in 1999 and that the program was already underway for 2000. The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$10 for the NSSAR Magazine for the Minneapolis Public Library, \$200 to the Minneapolis Public Library for materials from the Revolutionary War period, and \$50 to the Longfellow House Restoration Committee.

Minnesota Society

The Minnesota Society then commenced with their business. The Trustees of the MNSAR Endowment Trust proposed that the 1999 interest be donated as follows: \$25 to cover the MGS dues, \$25 to the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, and the balance of \$140.18 to the NSSAR Library for the purchase of microfilm rolls of Minnesota censuses.

Compatriot John H. Jones reported that membership stood at 116, with 112 members of the MNSAR and four dual members.

MNSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Ostendorf reported on the Rumbaugh Oration Contest. Our 1999 Minnesota winner had placed third in the NSSAR contest and won \$1,000. The contest is set to run

again in 2000.

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2000. All units in Minnesota were part of the program in 1999.

Compatriot Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Scholarship Program, indicating that 975 Eagle Scouts were mailed letters and applications. To date he has twelve entries.

Other Business

Compatriot Stephen Ernest reported on the MNSAR web site and showed ideas for business cards advertising the site. Upon consensus, he will work with Tim Harris to get cards printed. Look for them in your Washington Day Observance and Dinner announcement.

The Officers of the Minneapolis Chapter, Saint Paul Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by Compatriot Jones. A complete list of new officers is listed on the back of this newsletter.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 1:00 PM. New State President Robert Mirick read the SAR Recessional and Compatriot Ostendorf gave the benediction. He recited a prayer offered by George Washington during the American Revolution.

NEXT MEETING AND ORATION CONTEST

The Washington Day Observance and Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2000 at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave., Saint Paul. Luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. The meeting will be held jointly with the SR. Our own Duane L.C.M. Galles, Vice President General of the North Central District for the SAR and Secretary/Treasurer for the SR will be our speaker. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

After the luncheon you are all invited to attend the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest held at Cretin-Derham Hall High School. It consists of an original oration of five to six minutes by high school student contestants. Brother Paul Ostendorf is the Minnesota Chair for the contest. The Minnesota State winner will be given the opportunity to participate in the national competition at the NSSAR Congress. The national winner receives a \$3,000 scholarship award.

Cretin-Derham Hall High School is located at 550 South Albert Street, Saint Paul, MN 55116.

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NOW & THEN

Robert Bicknell Mirick is the new President of the Minnesota Society SAR. He is a native of Minneapolis. He joined the Minnesota Society ten years ago when John Jones recruited him. His mother was in the DAR and his father was in the SAR. Bob's parents discovered after they were married that they were sixth cousins—both being descended from Thomas and Hannah (Emerson) Duston.

Bob is also a member of the Mayflower Descendants, the National Huguenot Society, the Minneapolis Engineer's Club, the Saint Paul Engineer's Society and the Saint Paul Downtown Kiwanis Club.

Bob graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA, in 1939 with a BS in Electrical Engineering. He was employed in the Engineering Department of Pillsbury Mills in Minneapolis from 1939 to 1953, except for active duty in the Naval Reserve from 1942 to 1945, spend-

ing most of that time on a destroyer tender in the central Pacific in charge of Radio, Radar and Underwater Sound Repair Shop. In 1953 Bob was employed as an electrical engineer, retiring after twenty years at Sanitary Farm Dairies in Saint Paul.

Bob and his bride Donna (Riedel) look forward to celebrating their sixtieth wedding anniversary later this year. They have two grown sons, James Riedel Mirick and William Dustin Mirick, three granddaughters and two grandsons.

Bob has eight ancestors who fought for American independence.

- Elisha Mirick, Sergeant, MA
- Aaron Himrod, Private, PA
- Simon Himrod, Lieutenant, Patriot
- Robert Latimer, Private, PA
- Nathan Bicknell, Private, NH
- William Kelley, Sub Liet., PA
- Jonathan Duston, Minuteman, MA
- Eliphalet Dustin,

Corporal, NH

In the last newsletter we learned about Tom Harris' ancestor, Zaccheus Dustin, who fought in the American Revolution. Bob Mirick joined the SAR to honor his ancestor from his father's side, Eliphalet Dustin—Zaccheus Dustin's brother. Eliphalet Dustin was born in 1750 and married Janet McCollom in 1774. (Eliphalet's brother Zaccheus married Janet's sister, Elizabeth.)

The following is taken from the *Duston-Dustin Family Genealogy—Fifth Generation*: "Eliphalet probably came to Francestown, NH from Londonderry, NH in 1776 or 1777. Here he built a log house in the forest, and here he and his wife lived and raised a family, holding out in the face of such privations as are common to pioneers, and finally gaining a competence. Eliphalet Dustin was in Captain William Boye's Company, Col. Kelley's Regiment in 1778."

On his mother's side, Bob's Revolutionary War

ancestor is Jonathan Duston, a cousin of Eliphalet. "Jonathan Duston, Corporal, served during the French and English War. 1744-48, with Haverhill, Massachusetts men from April 18, to November 30, 1848, stationed at Scarborough. He was also at Crown Point Expedition 1755-56. He marched with the Haverhill Company on the alarm of April 19, 1775. [He served 36 months in Captain James Sawyer's Company, Col. James Frye's Regiment.] After the Revolution he removed to Canaan, NH where he became a proprietor."

As I write this article I notice that Robert Bicknell Mirick, and his sons are named for their Revolutionary War ancestors. Bob can be very proud of his American heritage. I also discovered a new cousin.

Tim Harris, Editor



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 08 JANUARY 2000

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Some of the Minnesota Society and Saint Paul Chapter officers changed from 1999. The Minneapolis Chapter officers were nominated for a second term. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Robert Bicknell Mirick
 Vice President James Cecil Church
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst Reg.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 Chancellor.....Larry Larson Warren
 Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon.....Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor	Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Howard Stewart Kushmar	Curtis John Oliver
Michael Scott Swisher	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Richard Edward Brink
Robert James Curtiss	Duane Loren Devereaux
Peter Arrott Dixon	Stephen John Ernest
The Rev. Wallace E. Gears	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Daro Eugene Larson
Larry Allan Lundblad	David Leonard Moody
Paul John Ostendorf	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
David Douglas Stevenson, Jr.	Michael LaLond West
4 open positions	

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2001 John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Trustee ending January 2002 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2003 Michael Scott Swisher, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in June 2000:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...Hon. David S. Bouschor, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....David Douglas Stevenson, Jr.
 Vice President Paul John Ostendorf
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Larry Allan Lundblad
 Larry Larson Warren

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Harvey Adolphus Andruss, Jr.
 James Cecil Church
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
 Howard Stewart Kushmar
 Robert Bicknell Mirick
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....Stephen John Ernest
 Vice President William Leslie DeCoursey
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain.....Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....George Floyd Smith M.D.
 Curtis John Oliver
 Thomas Christopher Harris

ARE YOUR Y2K DUES STILL DUE?

If you still owe 2000 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275.

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THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2000



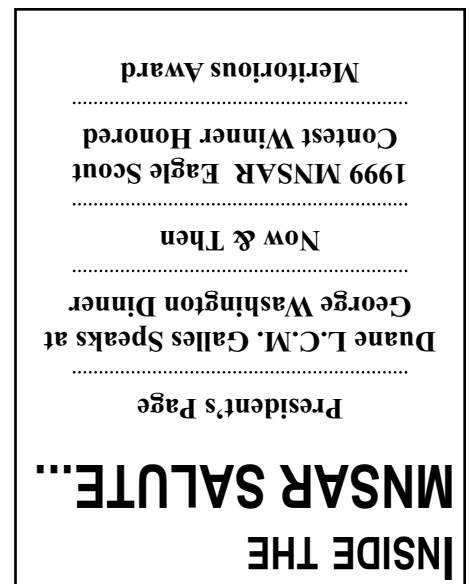
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Robert Mirick, MNSAR President

Greetings to the Minnesota SAR. I had the honor of presiding at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Dinner this past February 26th held jointly with the S.R. I was happy to see such a lively group attending our annual event. Duane Galles gave a wonderful discourse about the heraldry of George Washington. I enjoyed learning a

new lesser-known intimation about our first President.

At our annual meeting we awarded Paul Ostendorf, presented Duane Galles with a 25-year lapel pin and certificate, presented the winner of the Minnesota Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest with his trophy, and officially welcomed a new member.



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OUR OWN DUANE L.C.M. GALLES SPEAKS AT WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

The annual George Washington Observance and Dinner was held jointly by the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution at the Lexington Restuarant in Saint Paul.

Minnesota SAR President Robert Mirick opened with greetings. Greetings were also extended by the S.R.'s special guest, Tom Etter, who flew in from Washington, DC that morning to attend. Tom Etter is creating a history of the S.R. in book form starting with the New York Society of 1876 which will include the National Society and each State Society of the S.R.

Our tasty luncheon consisted of a savory beef stroganoff smothered in gravy served with a dallop of sour cream. For dessert we were treated to a delicious lemon custard parfait with whipped cream on top and crushed walnuts on the bottom.

After dinner Duane L.C.M. Galles was presented with a 25-year emblem and certificate and our newest member, Marvin Eugene Stonecipher, was presented with his membership certificate and rosette.



*Speaker Duane Galles,
 Secretary John H. Jones,
 Brother Paul Ostendorf
 and special guest
 Tom Etter, General
 President of the S.R.*

Our own Duane LeRoy Charles Mealman Galles, Esq. presented a dissertation entitled *Washington's Arms: the Heritage and Legacy: Some Bicentennial Reflections*.

Duane is well versed in his subject, being a member of many Heraldry Societies and having written many publications on the subject. Duane started by handing everyone in attendance a pamphlet with a diagram of the ancestry of George Washington and heraldic shield emblems of the Washington family.

He divided his address into three parts; Washington's armorial heritage, Washington and arms, and the heritage for us in Washington's arms: from

Washington's perspective, the ghost of heraldry past, the ghost of heraldry present, and the ghost of heraldry to come.

Duane explained the ancestry of our first President starting in the middle ages. "The Washington line traced back to William de Washington who died ca. 1220. William's grandson, Walter de Washington, bore arms, viz., a red lion rampant on a silver shield entirely covered by a bend or diagonal checked sliver and blue." He then traced the Washington family to our first President.

During Washington's lifetime "...his printed correspondence shows that he also bore a sustained interest in heraldry and in his own

particular armorial heritage. He frequently troubled his London factors asking them to acquire personal items for himself and his family engraved or painted with his coat of arms. Silver, bookplates, and even a carriage were ordered from London, all bearing his two red bars and three red stars on a silver field."

Today there are public uses of Washington's arms. "The Washington arms are found on the District of Columbia flag, flying gloriously above many of the public buildings of the City which bears his name. Another public use of Washington's arms is to be found among the nation's armed forces decorations ...by act of Congress, the



SHAKOPEE EAGLE SCOUT HONORED AT WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON



Benjamin Jacob Ulrich Banwart accepts the Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy from Tim Harris, Minnesota SAR Eagle Scout Committee Chair.

Benjamin Jacob Ulrich Banwart, of the Viking Council Boy Scouts of America, received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Benjamin was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Dinner. His mother, father and younger brother were also in attendance. Benjamin read his patriotic essay about George Washington which fit very nicely into our annual event.

Benjamin's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville,

Kentucky to complete with other state winners for a \$5,000 scholarship. A \$1,000 scholarship was also chosen. This years national winner was the Arizona Society candidate, Erik Fagergren. The runner-up is Michael Patrick Lester Flaherty of Pennsylvania.

Benjamin's patriotic theme shows remarkable insight and eloquence and is presented in its entirety on the back of this newsletter.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL AWARDED

During the George Washington Luncheon Brother Paul John Ostendorf was awarded the Meritorious medal and certificate for his diligent work on the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest. The winner or the Minnesota Oration Contest placed third in the national competition last year. Each year Paul also places flowers at the Taylor grave in Winona, MN, the resting place of the only Revolutionary War veteran buried in Minnesota. The medal has the likeness of Thomas Jefferson on one side and Paul's name and date engraved on the back. The familiar white, yellow and blue ribbon adorn the medal.



NOTICE:

Please watch for details to be mailed to you regarding the MNSAR Board of Managers luncheon meeting this July.

If you have an idea or a story that you would like to see in the Minnesota SAR Salute, please contact Tim Harris, 6184 Stinson Blvd. NE, Fridley, MN 55432-5835. Or call 763/572-9396.



GEORGE WASHINGTON

by Benjamin Jacob Ulrich Banwart—
1999 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

On February 22nd, 1732, George Washington was born at his father's estate in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Washington grew up on a farm. As Washington got older, he got taller; he was around six foot-four.

Washington became a very tall individual.

Washington had an interest in surveying when he was young. When Washington was 17, he got his first job with the government as the Culpeper County Surveyor. Later on, Washington became a farmer.

Washington showed interest in improving the productivity of his crops and the quality of his livestock. When he identified the problem that just growing tobacco was not very profitable or logical, he fixed the problem. Washington realized that tobacco was very dependent on the weather and the British market. In reaction to this, he started planting various crops and manufactured various goods.

Washington joined the military and fought in the French and Indian Wars when he was a young adult.

Washington was connected with the wealth and

powerful Fairfax family because of his half-brother Lawrence's marriage.

With his connection with the Fairfax family and his own accomplishments, Washington became a wealthy land owner and a member of the House of Burgesses. Washington became involved in the protest of Virginians against the restrictions of British rule. Washington continued his protest against the British rule of the Colonies and their mistreating of the Colonists. He protested against the outrageous taxes on British goods and along with the Virginians, he worked to ban taxable British goods from the Colony in 1770.

In 1774, Washington became a part of the First Continental Congress. At the gathering, he expressed his opinion that the British were mistreating the Colonies and its people. In 1775 he was elected as the Commander and Chief of the Continental Army which he organized. He organized other militias and the Army continued to grow. People from all of the 13 colonies joined in on the war with the British, The Revolutionary War. Washington and the rest of

the Colonists fought very hard in the war. Even throughout unbearable and harsh times, Washington had self dignity and determination that not only helped him but many Colonial soldiers.

Washington got self satisfaction from winning the war; he refused getting paid for being in the war.

After the war, he became involved in increasing trade for the United States and in developing more settlements further west. In 1785, he acted because he realized that the Articles of Confederation, which ran the United States, gave too much power to the states and not enough to the nation. There was no real unity between the states. In 1787 he led the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, where he convinced the representatives to make the Consitution of the United States. Washington was asked to be the King of the United States, but he declined because he thought that would give one person too much power; and that is the reason the United States separated from Enland.

On February 4th, 1789, Washington was voted unanimously for the President of the United States. John Adams became Vice President.

On April 30th, 1789, he was sworn in and took office in New York. Washington was later reelected as President. During his presidencies, Washington avoided the United States from getting into various wars, especially with France and England. He opened many trade routes with the rest of the world, and he developed and improved the government of the United States. Washington refused the opportunity to run for a third term. John Adams succeeded Washington as president. In 1798, Washington accepted nominal command of the army if the undeclared hostility with France developed in to open war. On December 14th, 1799, at 11:00pm George Washington died.

As you can see, George Washington was a very respected man because of his determination and commitment. Washington worked for the people and their beliefs. In conclusion, I think George Washington was a very important person and so does my family. Not only do they respect Washington for what he did for this nation, my Great Grandfather was named George Washington Banwart.

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2000



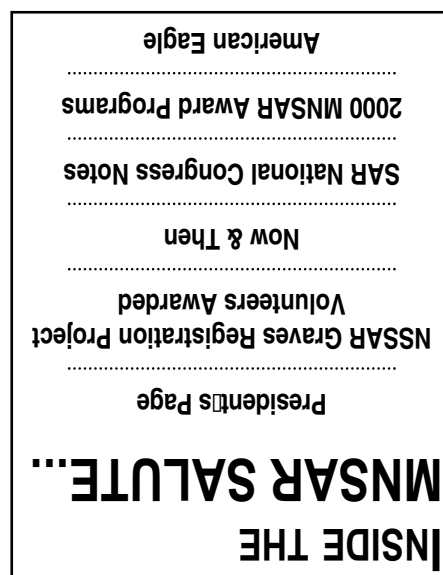
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Robert Mirick, MNSAR President

On April 29 I represented MNSAR at a very imposing program, the 41st annual Tri-Service Review at the Northrup Mall at the University of Minnesota. I presented an SAR award consisting of a certificate and a medal to Army Cadet Johnson, Naval Midshipman Dalluge and Air Force Cadet Reid. There were 29 other

patriotic organizations participating in the festivities honoring outstanding students who take part in ROTC at the U.

There were speeches by Dr. John S. Adams of the University and Brig. General Dennis W. Shulstad, USAFR (Retired) followed by a reception at the Armory with drills and demonstrations. All in all it was a great show of the steps our Government is taking to protect our nation and the calibre of the students who take part.



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M I N N E S O T A

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TWO MNSAR MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM NSSAR



Paul J. Ostendorf received a Meritorious Service Medal and Certificate signed by President General Howard F. Horne, Jr., PhD at the March Trustees meeting of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Compatriot Ostendorf received the award from Chairman Robert Galer of the Revolutionary War graves Committee at the regular semi-annual meeting of the committee.

The medal is awarded to an SAR member who has rendered long, faithful and meritorious service to the National Society. The meritorious service consisted of outstanding volunteer work over the period 1998-2000 on the publication task force of the Revolutionary War Graves Register.

The RWGR 2000 is a data base on a compact disc of the graves reported to the SAR of Revolutionary War soldiers, sailors, and other patriots over the past hundred

years. Over 99,000 graves are listed with a total of over 135,000 names. It has been made available this past April. See the Spring, 2000 issue of the SAR Magazine for a very interesting article concerning the data contained on the CD ROM.

Compatriot Ostendorf personally edited and entered into the RWGR data base software system over 30,000 grave locations from graves report forms, lists and various publications.

Tim Harris also received a Certificate of Appreciation for his notable contribution as a volunteer in editing and compiling the SAR data base for the 2000 edition of the Revolutionary War Graves Register.

NOW & THEN

George Floyd Smith, MD, a native of Saint Paul, is a past president of the Saint Paul Chapter SAR and as such is one of the Board of Managers. He is also a member of the General Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Minnesota.

He and his wife Christine have three children, Randall, Ryan and Kathryn.

After twenty-five years in family practice with the East Side Medical Center he has joined the faculty in the Department of Family Practice and Community Health at the University of Minnesota. He works with the residents in family practice at St. John's and also maintains a practice.

George joined the MNSAR to honor his ancestor Elisha Barber. Elisha Barber was born November 23, 1722 in Medfield, Massachusetts and became a selectman in

Sherborn, Massachusetts in 1771. He enlisted June 29, 1776 at the age of fifty-three! He served five months in Captain Samuel King's company, Colonel Josiah Whitney's regiment. His rank was recorded as Private. His son also served from August through December, 1780 at the age of twenty-two in a group of reinforcements to the Continental Army. He also was a Private.

Elisha Barber died July 7, 1803.

NEXT MEETING:

There will be no meeting this July. Instead we opted to report on the National Congress and conduct other business at the annual Constitution Day Luncheon which will be held on Saturday September 9, 2000 at the Lexington Restaurant beginning at noon. The social time will begin at 11:30 AM. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



NOTES ON THE SAR NATIONAL CONGRESS

Boston Mass. Saturday's reception featured New England food—clam chowder, baked beans, crab cakes, Indian pudding—all foods

common in that area.

An excellent event.

The shortened format of the Congress proved successful. All business was completed by 10:00 AM Tuesday morning and the remainder of that day was free. The old schedule went through Wednesday, so it is evident that the shortened format covers the necessary matters.

There were no contested positions of the General Officers, so the election was very smooth. House-keeping by-law changes were done, with virtually no debate, and the list of resolutions contained fine resolutions, but nothing of controversy, so again minimal debate. All this contributed to the success of the shortened format.

Sunday was the Oration Contest, with our own Paul Ostendorf serving as one of the judges. As usual, all the participants were outstanding. The awards program Sunday evening followed the finals of the Oration Contest.

The Monday luncheon of a vegetarian lasagna was a change of pace food-wise, but enjoyable. The various youth awards were given at the lun-

cheon, which was started with a political speech by the President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge! It was a most enjoyable rendition.

Both the Monday and Tuesday Banquets were busy, with no room for any special speaker. Monday was the investiture of the Minuteman Awards to the six selected this year. It's always an impressive time, as the award is the highest award given by the National Society for service at the National level. The Monday banquet was a chicken entree, which was tasty.

The Tuesday banquet of steak included the formal installation of Officers with the impressive George Washington Ring ceremony, during which the actual signet ring of George Washington is placed on the President General's finger. Our National Society has a real treasure in that ring.

Our own Duane L.C.M. Galles was re-elected and installed as our Vice President General for the North Central District.

*Contributed by
John Hallberg Jones*

2000 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



ROTC AWARDS

Seventeen young men from ROTC units located throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the Minnesota SAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDALS

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis and twelve Saint Paul area high schools this year. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service, and an appreciation of Patriotism.*

FLAG CERTIFICATES
On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were

presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing their patriotism and love of country. This year's recipients are:

- Bramante's Apartments, New Brighton
- Lakeside Homes, New Brighton
- Sinclair Service Station, New Brighton
- Steve's Gas & Splash, New Brighton
- Watkins Motor Lines, Roseville

New MNSAR Member:

David Carleton Gerrish, Sr.
descendant of Major Charles
Gerrish

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday, August 26, 1765

STAMP ACT RIOTS

Lieutenant Governor's house in ruins

Boston, Mass.— Last night while Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson hid at a neighbors house an angry mob utterly destroyed his house on Garden Court Street. Governor Hutchinson and his family barely escaped as axes started splitting his front door.

Angry over stories that Hutchinson was not only encouraging Parliament to pass the Stamp Act, but was actually drawing up the law in his mansion, the rioters shattered

the inner doors and beat down the walls between the rooms. Swarms of rioters climbed onto the roof and started prying up slate and boards. Only daylight stopped them from razing the house's outer walls to the ground.

Hutchinson, who is also chief justice, was seen today in court with his fellow justices wearing the clothes in which he had fled.

"I never, in New England or Old, in Great Britain or



America," stated the governor, "neither directly or indirectly, was aiding, assisting or supporting—in the least promoting or encouraging—what is commonly called the Stamp Act but, on the contrary, did all in my power, and strove as much as in me lay, to prevent it."

Two weeks earlier, on August 14, the Sons of Liberty held a demonstration at the Liberty Tree across from Boylston Market on High Street. Hanging from one branch was an effigy of Andrew Oliver, who was recently appointed stamp master for Massachusetts Bay and is Thomas Hutchinson's brother-in-law.

Forty or fifty tradesmen led a march through the street, followed by several hundred townspeople. The crowd made quick work of destroying what they believed was going to be

Oliver's stamp office.

They then set off for Oliver's house. Rioters broke down Oliver's fifteen-foot fence and stripped all the fruit from the trees and tore down a gazebo. They started breaking the windows at the back of the house. Once inside they headed for the cellar and helped themselves to the stores of liquor. Upstairs they broke furniture and scattered the silverplate throughout the house.

The patriots insisted later that no one made off with anything valuable.

Massachusetts Governor Francis Bernard offered a hundred-pound reward for the apprehension of the demonstrator's leaders. He also promised amnesty to anyone in the mob who came forward with information. Hutchinson is not surprised that the reward went unclaimed.

Source: *Patriots*, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Patriots' Point of View Repeal the Sugar and Stamp Acts

With the Sugar Act the British impose a duty of threepence to be rigorously collected for each gallon of foreign molasses. This danger is not limited to the merchants of Boston. A tax on molasses could easily extend to crops as well. If our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? Why not the produce of our lands and, in short, everything we possess or make use of? Since the colonies have no delegates in the Parliament, we should not be taxed. Taxation without representation is tyranny! Parliament has no right to tax the colonies without their consent.

The Stamp Act is to take effect November 1, 1765. This will require that the colonists buy a stamp for every American newspaper, legal document or license and bond. Stamps will also be needed for any pamphlet, almanac, college diploma, deck of cards or pair of dice. Collectors will be licensed to issue the stamped paper and receive money for it.

While the unfortunate destruction of Oliver's and Hutchinson's houses was probably a boozy afterthought by the mob, the parade and bonfire are legitimate protests by an oppressed people. If England feels that her colonies must help in the financing of the French and Indian War, why not consider Benjamin Franklin's suggestion? Let England say how much money it needs and let America decide how to raise it.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

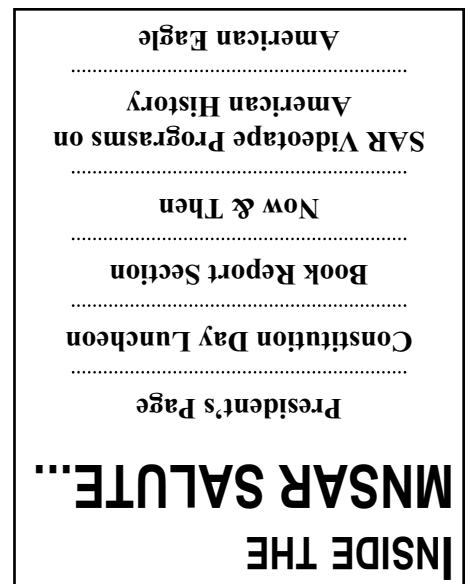
Robert Mirick, MNSAR President

I thought that the presentation by Paul Ostendorf, John Hallberg Jones and Duane Galles at the Minnesota SAR Constitution Week Luncheon was exceptionally fine. It indicated how much planning goes into National Congresses and how men who attend can return to their State Societies with enthusiasm and valuable information for all of us. We are

fortunate to have members such as these who will take the time to attend and represent us.

I was very happy to welcome Hon. Paul Kent Theisen, the Mayor of Sauk Center, who is one of three new MNSAR members. I am also giving each of my sons an application for membership in the Minnesota Society which their father and paternal grandfather both enjoyed.

Go ye, and do likewise!



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS



President Robert Mirick

presents our

newest member,

Hon. Paul Kent Theisen,

with his SAR

member's certificate

and rosette.

The Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution's annual Constitution Day Celebration was held jointly with the Minnesota Sons of the Revolution at the Lexington Restaurant in Saint Paul. SAR President Robert Mirick opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the SAR. Reverend Richard Keene Smith, Jr. offered the invocation.

A scrumptious dinner of sliced turkey served with mashed potatoes and gravy over toast with stuffing and cranberry sauce was served. Rolls were also provided. For dessert we enjoyed lemon parfait beautifully layered with cookie crumbs, custard, lemon pie filling topped with whipped cream and crushed almonds.

The Minnesota SR conducted their business including the election of their officers.

President Mirick then called on John Hallberg

Jones to introduce three new members. David Gerrish, Sr. and Thomas Richardson were not present but he did present Hon. Paul Kent Theisen, mayor of Sauk Center, with his member's certificate and rosette.

Brother Paul Ostendorf then reported on the NSSAR National Congress held this past July in Boston, Massachusetts. He was very moved by Sunday's memorial service. Everyone attending followed a procession led by the National Society Color Guard in full costume to Trinity Church, one of the oldest churches in America.

Paul reported that he was also on the national committee for the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest, helping as one of the judges.

The NSSAR also approved plans for a new library to be built across the street from National Headquarters. Paul noted that the present SAR library is located on the second floor of the National

Headquarters, which is not adequate to hold the many volumes and heavy equipment. He also reported that the public library located not far away is used very differently than is the NSSAR genealogical library.

Compatriot John H. Jones elaborated on the shortened format of this year's Congress, expressing it worked very well and all business was conducted very easily within the shortened schedule. He reported about the Minuteman Award which is given by the NSSAR each year to recognize six compatriots who have given outstanding service of an exceptional character to the National Society. He also stated that Minnesota's award, the Stephen Taylor Award, was presented to Compatriot Clovis H. Brakebill, TXSAR, for his research and writings. He has made a distinguished contribution to the preservation of history of the American Revolution era

and its Patriots.

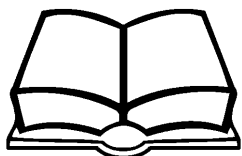
Four resolutions were passed: One opposes proposed changes in the oath of citizenship, *dumbing down* the test of citizenship; another recognizes the historic significance of the fiftieth anniversary of the Korean War; another commends the efforts of the Friends of the Fort Laurens Foundation to rebuild Fort Laurens in the State of Ohio; and the last one commends the many people who planned and organized this year's National Congress.

Duane L.C.M. Galles, Vice President General of the North Central District, reported that there were between 500-600 people attending this year's Congress—one of the better attended in a number of years. Next year's NSSAR Congress will be held in Louisville, Kentucky.

President Mirick closed our very enjoyable meeting with the SAR Recessional.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual General Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul on Saturday, January 13, 2001. Committees meet at 10 AM. Meeting begins at 11 AM. Luncheon (from the menu) will be served at noon. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



BOOK REPORT SECTION

Compatriot Arthur Louis Finnell

New York Colonial Muster Rolls 1664 - 1775 Report of the State Historian of the State of New York

Reprinted in two volumes, 2000 hard cover— Price: \$85.00 plus \$4.75 postage and handling. Available from Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 North Calvert St. Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

Originally published as appendices, or supplements, to the *Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York for the years 1897 and 1898*. The two volumes contain transcripts of all colonial muster rolls on deposit in Albany for the years 1665-1775.

The records contain a variety of materials including pay rolls, size rolls, petitions, etc. and identifies approximately 30,000 men who served in the various militia companies during the years before the Revolution. Here is a new reprint of these valuable records made available to those with New York roots. Both volumes appear to be indexed together at the end of volume II.

Anyone with interest in New York colonial records will want to have these two fine volumes available for their research. The wealth of information and details found here is beyond belief and a great place to start

one's New York colonial military service research.

Ohio Land and Tax Records CD#7652— Price: \$29.99 plus \$3.50 postage and handling. Available from Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 North Calvert St. Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

The researcher can find here a wealth of information on Ohio's earliest settlers. This magnificent CD ROM contains the following five publications, all linked by a single electronic index and a unique search engine.

Early Ohio Settlers:

■ *Purchasers of Land in Southwestern Ohio, 1800-1840.*

■ *Purchasers of Land in Southeastern Ohio, 1800-1840.*

■ *Purchasers of Land in East and East Central Ohio, 1800-1840.*

All compiled by Ellen T. and David A. Berry.

■ *Early Ohio Tax Records* by Esther Weygant Powell

■ *First Ownership of Ohio Lands* by Albion M. Dyer

A very valuable collection of help in tracing the migration westward through Ohio. If you are looking for family in Ohio, this is one of those places you need to start the search. A very valuable resource for the researcher anywhere.

NOW&THEN

Curtis John Oliver has been a member of the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution since 1984, serving as President of the Saint Paul Chapter from 1986-1988. He is also a past president of the MNSAR having served from 1990-1991. In 1987 he received a Meritorious Medal for his untiring work and involvement on behalf of the MNSAR.

Curt joined the SAR because of an interest in history and genealogy, and because there was an Oliver family legend that he had an ancestor in the Boston Tea Party, but no one knew who he was, and no one had researched it.

Curt is also a member of the General Society of the War of 1812. Curt is currently the District Deputy President General for the North Central Region of the General Society of the War of 1812.

Curt is a native of Saint Paul, Minnesota. He attended St. Croix Lutheran High School (West St. Paul) and the University of Minnesota, earning his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1966. He also attended three years of grad school.

Curt worked as music director of KUOM radio (U of M) from 1970 to 1993.

He's currently music director of Macalester-Plymouth United Church in St. Paul, and works as a composer of sacred choral and keyboard music. He has about fifty publications with eight publishers.

His revolutionary ancestor is Thomas Spear, born December 3, 1753. His participation in the Boston Tea Party of 1773 is well documented but apparently he did not later enlist as a soldier. He worked as a fisherman in Boston Harbor, and spent his last years as keeper of Rainsford Island, a harbor island which was used as a quarantine hospital and clearing point for entering ships. He died there on April 15, 1812, and is buried on the island. His tombstone is there, but there is no Revolutionary War or historical marker. His daughter Sarah Spear married Curt's great-great grandfather, Captain John Oliver. Capt. John and Sarah Oliver moved to Lakeland, Minnesota in 1849, and are both buried there.



AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday June 16, 1768

'LIBERTY' SEIZED FROM BOSTON

Mob retaliates against Townshend Acts' Commissioners

Boston, Massachusetts—Yesterday the Townshend Acts Commissioners seized the *Liberty* as punishment for a false tax declaration. Fearing that a patriot mob might retake Hancock's sloop and sail it to safety, the customs men signaled the *H.M.S. Romney* to send barges of troops armed with bayonets. As the patriots protested, the *Liberty* was

towed out to the *Romney* and secured under her fifty guns.

The provocation transformed the crowd on the wharf into a mob. Throwing stones and swinging clubs it burst upon the customs officials. Joseph Harrison, a collector, was beaten badly. His son, Richard, a customs clerk, was dragged through the



streets by his hair. Thomas Irving, inspector of imports and exports, escaped with his sword broken and his clothes ripped. John Hancock's cargo disappeared from the pier. About ten PM, the mob spotted Harrison's large pleasure boat at the wharf. Cheering, they dragged it to the common and set it on fire. Moving across the open grass, the throng milled around the houses of Harrison and Benjamin Hallowell, the comptroller of customs, yelling and breaking windows.

In May John Hancock's sloop, the *Liberty*, entered Boston Harbor with a cargo of wine from Madeira. Her captain told the customs men that the wine on board totaled twenty-five pipes, or casks, which was slightly over three thousand gallons

but well below the ship's capacity.

Recently, Thomas Kirk, the investigator charged with verifying the report said that during the inspection, "I was shoved into the cabin and nailed inside by a gang of men led by another of John Hancock's captains, John Marshall." Kirk claims that while he was held captive, other workers removed the stores of undeclared wine. "When they were finished Captain Marshall warned me that my life and my property depended on my silence."

Captain Marshall cannot refute the story, since he died, apparently of a heart attack, the day after the *Liberty* was unloaded.

Source: *Patriots*, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Patriots' Point of View Repeal the Townshend Acts

Since the failure of the Stamp Act the British Government has been trying to figure out a way to impose taxes on her colonies.

Rather than levy a tax on America's internal affairs, "Champagne Charley" Townshend proposed imposing external duties on several commodities that America is required by law to import exclusively from England—paint, paper, lead and tea.

For years America's only control over a haughty governor or judge was the fact that our legislature pays their salary. Through the Townshend Acts a portion of the new revenue would pay royal appointees for serving in America.

The Townshend Acts appointed five new commissioners of customs and sent them to Boston six months ago with broad powers.

Townshend's acts also set up new admiralty courts that can try smugglers without a jury. The punishment for violating the Sugar Act is seizure of a ship and its cargo. This tactic amounts to extortion. Townshend's relatively small duties will soon give way to larger ones. They will be followed by British soldiers to enforce the law and strip America's legislature of its power.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2001



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Robert Mirick, MNSAR President

We are fortunate to have secured Priscilla Farnham for the speaker at the combined SAR/SR meeting on March 17. As the Executive Director of the Ramsey County Historical Society she has been responsible for operating that organization as a very well-respected entity. The Gibbs Farm was the basis of the Society but it has expanded into an office in

Landmark Center at 75 West Fifth Street in downtown Saint Paul. In addition to their offices they maintain an exhibit area in the north lobby gallery space on the first floor. The present exhibit *Architecture of a Working City, Prewar to Present* opened November 12, 2000 and will run until November 21, 2001. I recommend that you plan to see it.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a reservation form for the meeting for your use. No other notice for the meeting will be sent.

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Minnesota Society SAR Officers
for 2001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE LEXINGTON RESTAURANT

The Minnesota Society and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at The Lexington Restaurant in Saint Paul on Saturday, January 13, 2001. Luncheon was served during the meeting.

The formalities of the day were started by Robert Bicknell Mirick, President of the Minnesota Society, who led the pledge to the US flag and the pledge to the SAR. Compatriot Ostendorf offered the invocation, having the assemblage sing the first two verses of *God of Our Fathers*, a hymn sung at the NSSAR Memorial Service in Boston, MA, in June 2000. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Chapters conducted their business.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter, led by President Stephen Ernest, was called to order. Compatriot Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2000 and five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who

MNSAR V.P.

Larry Larson Warren, President Robert Bicknell Mirick, new Minneapolis Chapter President Paul John Ostendorf, MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer, John H. Jones, and new St. Paul Chapter President, William DeCoursey.



regularly fly the flag.

The incoming Saint Paul Chapter President, William DeCoursey, presented our outgoing President, Stephen Ernest, with a Past President's Certificate of Appreciation and his Past President's pin.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by David Douglas Stevenson, President. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented to 26 area high schools in 2000 and the program was already underway for 2001.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$200 to the Minneapolis Public Library for materials from the Revolutionary War

period and \$50 to the Longfellow House Restoration Committee. It was noted that the subscription to the NSSAR Magazine was renewed for a period of three years for the Minneapolis Public Library.

Minnesota Society

Compatriot Jones reported that membership stood at 116, with 112 members of the MNSAR and 4 dual members.

The Trustees of the MNSAR Endowment Trust proposed that the 2000 interest of \$306.35 be donated as follows: \$25 to cover the Minnesota Genealogical Society dues, \$30 to the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and \$100 to the Ramsey County Historical Society to be presented on March

17, 2001 at our luncheon. The balance of \$151.35 will be donated to the Sibley House. The proposal passed unanimously.

It was announced that there is a Revolutionary War re-enactment group forming. Contact John Jones for details.

Compatriot Jones presented Page Whitmore his Past President's pin and certificate for his term completed last year.

MNSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Ostendorf reported that the Rumbaugh Oration Contest is in place for 2001 and Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is also in place for 2001. Jones noted that last year there were seventeen participating ROTC units



and that this year there may be eighteen.

Compatriot Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Scholarship Program, indicating that 700 Eagle Scouts were mailed letters and applications. To date he has six entries which will be judged in the next week or so.

Member Certificates

John Hallberg Jones presented a membership certificate and rosette to Christopher John Pizinger, our newest member. He also presented three supplemental certificates to Paul John Ostendorf. Paul noted that one of his new supplementals was for a woman, Catherine Smith, who ran a mill which bore rifle barrels for the patriot's cause.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Minneapolis Chapter, Saint Paul Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by John Hallberg Jones. A complete list of new officers is listed on the back of this newsletter.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 1:15 PM. Compatriot Ostendorf led us in singing the last two verses of *God of Our Fathers* for the benediction. MNSAR President Mirick read the SAR Recessional.

NOW & THEN

Mavin "Stoney"

Stonecipher is the new vice president of the Saint Paul Chapter SAR. He is a native of Houston, Texas. He joined the Minnesota Society over a year ago having been approved in November, 1999. He joined the SAR because he feels that it is important for all people to learn of their heritage. Marvin is also a member of the First Tennesseans.

From January 1962 until June 1966 Marvin was in the navy. He was a machinist's mate. Stoney ran the ships most of the time. He stood a lot of 'Shore Patrol' and was shot at in Santo Domingo, Cuba, during the crises. He was hit in Viet Nam. Stoney went to college on the G. I. Bill—going to South Texas College, the University of Houston and the University of Minnesota.

While in the navy Marvin had a pen pal from Minnesota. She was a kindergarten teacher from St. Paul Park. He wrote her for two years then decided to come to Minnesota to meet this "little ole school teacher" from the sticks. Well, you can figure out the rest. He



married Anita in 1967, moved to Texas for six years before moving to Minnesota for good. Marvin was married for nearly 30 years before Anita was taken by cancer.

Marvin has three grown sons and a daughter. Brian is a director of sales for Ideal Aerosmith in Grand Forks, ND; Michael owns a carpet store in Big Lake, MN; Kari is a code specialist for Merrill, Corp.; and Jon is a store manager. Marvin is a very proud grandfather of four.

Marvin oversees all utility operations as Engineering Supervisor at 3M, Cottage Grove. He is a very loyal employee having worked there for 28 years.

Marvin is a linear descendant of Lieutenant Henricus Stonecipher,

whose service in the Revolutionary War brought Marvin to the SAR. He is busy documenting Revolutionary War records for eight more ancestors.

"During the Revolutionary War Henricus Stonecipher lived in North Carolina. During October of 1779, Lt. Stonecipher marched up the Yadkin River in pursuit of Tories. In 1781 he marched from Wilkes County down the forks of the Yadkin River in order to join General Green's army who was relocating from the British Army. These services were performed under Captain Robert Cleveland."

This statement was made in the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, August Session 1834, by Abijah Fairchild, a resident of the County of Wilkes and the State of North Carolina for Lt. Stonecipher's pension application.



2001 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Minnesota Society officers were nominated for a second term. The Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapter's officers changed from 2000. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Vice President	James Cecil Church
Secretary-Treasurer.....	John Hallberg Jones, PP
Registrar.....	Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
Genealogist & Asst Reg.....	William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
Chancellor	Larry Larson Warren
Historian/Newsletter Editor	Timothy Charles Harris, PP
Librarian.....	Thomas Christopher Harris
Surgeon	Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
Chaplain	The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms	Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor	Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Howard Stewart Kushmar	Curtis John Oliver
Michael Scott Swisher	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Richard Edward Brink
Robert James Curtiss	Duane Loren Devereaux
Peter Arrott Dixon	Stephen John Ernest
The Rev. Wallace E. Gears	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Daro Eugene Larson
Larry Allan Lundblad	David Leonard Moody, M.D.
Paul John Ostendorf	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
David Douglas Stevenson	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Michael LaLond West
2 open positions	

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2004 John Hallberg Jones, PP
Trustee ending January 2003 Michael Scott Swisher, PP
Trustee ending January 2002 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in June 2001:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Paul John Ostendorf
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...Timothy Charles Harris, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....	Paul John Ostendorf
Vice President	Larry Larson Warren
Secretary-Treasurer.....	John Hallberg Jones
Chaplain	The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Board of Managers.....	Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
	Timothy Charles Harris
	Larry Allan Lundblad

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Harvey Adolphus Andruss, Jr.
James Cecil Church
William Leslie DeCoursey
Arthur Louis Finnell
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Howard Stewart Kushmar
Robert Bicknell Mirick
David Douglas Stevenson
Michael Scott Swisher
Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....	William Leslie DeCoursey
Vice President	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Secretary-Treasurer.....	Timothy Charles Harris
Chaplain	Michael Scott Swisher
Board of Managers.....	George Floyd Smith M.D.
	Thomas Christopher Harris
	Stephen John Ernest

HAPPY NEW MILLENNIUM!

Don't risk being dropped from membership.
If you still owe 2001 dues please remit to our
Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East
Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or
call him at 612/721-4275.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



C.A.R. UPDATE

Calling All SARs

Here's a chance to spread our wings... get the word out about MNSAR. We in the SAR are one of the parents of the Children of the American Revolution and C.A.R. is one of our best sources of future SAR members.

Come, have an impact on our future by going to the C.A.R.'s Spring Event on Sunday, March 18, 1:30-3:00 pm at the historic DuPuis House, Sibley Site, in Mendota. Let's get a carload and go.

Want More SAR Members?

We are always looking for eligible, enthusiastic and interested members. Did you know that your children and/or grandchildren are all eligible for membership in the C.A.R.? They don't have to wait until they are 18 to become active in a good lineage organization!

It is really easy for C.A.R.s to join SAR at 18-22 years of age. Let's grow by enrolling descendants in C.A.R. this year. They want to learn from us and share our patriotism, interest in American history, and love of country.

Call Sandie Lamb Bunker, 952/475-4147(w) or 952/938-3202(h) for details and papers.

WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON TO BE HELD AT THE FORT SNELLING OFFICER'S CLUB



Be sure to reserve your place at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon on March 17, 2001. Our guest speaker will be Priscilla Farnham whose presentation is entitled, *Mrs. Gibbs and the Dacotah Indians*.

Mrs. Farnham is a noted leader in the Twin Cities, serving as the Executive Director of the Ramsey County Historical Society. Her slide-illustrated presentation will cover the life of Jane Gibbs— whose residence,

the Gibbs Farm Museum, is an important historical site run by the Ramsey County Historical Society. Fort Snelling played a part in the Gibb's life as well, so it is appropriate that our next meeting is at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

The Fort Snelling Officer's Club is located on Post Road off Highway 5, across from the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport.

Please refer to the notice enclosed with this newsletter and reserve your place today!

SAR AWARD ORGANIZERS SOUGHT

The MNSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 26 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.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday October 2, 1768

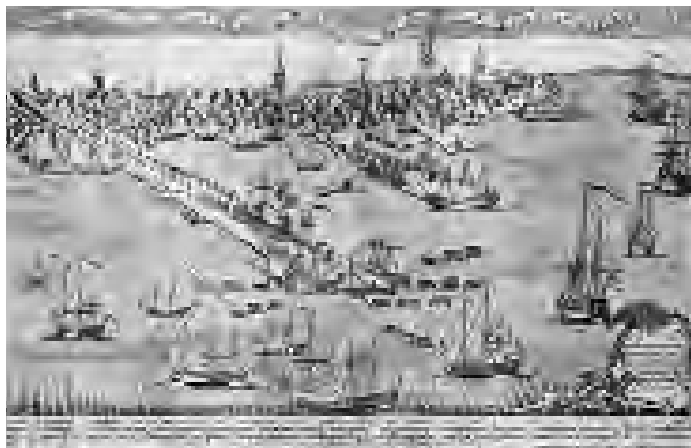
BRITISH TROOPS INVADE BOSTON

"Bloody backs" debark to face rebels

Boston, Massachusetts—Yesterday, with drums and fifes setting the pace, British soldiers in their bright-red coats and black three-cornered hats marched up King Street. Many of the drummers were black men, wearing yellow coats and the high white bearskin caps of the grenadiers. The officers were adorned with silver armor at the neck and the chest, crimson sashes at

the shoulder and swords at the waist. Sergeants marched with halberds, the long-handled battle axes.

For nearly four hours, the British paraded through the town, past Town House and the Old Granary Burying Ground, until at last they assembled on Boston Common. The ranks included nine companies each from the Fourteenth and Twenty-ninth



British fleet anchored in Boston Harbor as for a regular siege.

Patriots' Point of View

Governor Bernard should be recalled

Through their contacts in London, the patriots have recently discovered that Governor Bernard had been writing letters to London asking for troops from the crown, using the patriots' legitimate protests of an oppressed people resulting from the Sugar, Stamp and Townshend Acts as an excuse.

The king cannot impose an English army on the Massachusetts Bay Colony without the consent of the colony's representatives. Billeting troops on a civilian population in a time of peace is an infringement of traditional liberties.

In opposing the patriots, Bernard had opposed the king's true interests, had misinterpreted conditions in Boston and had given the province "what is technically known as a black eye."

One of America's best defenses is to continue to boycott luxury goods from Britain known as the "non-importation agreement" and produce more of our own goods throughout the province. A boycott can pinch English nerves quickly and severely. All banned goods that arrive at the port—including silks, velvets, coaches, chariots, all ready made apparel, furniture and loaf sugar—should be crated up and returned to London.

Regiments, one company of artillery and an eighty-four-man unit from the Fifty-ninth Regiment—a total of a thousand men.

For lack of better quarters, the Twenty-ninth Regiment pitched its tents on Boston Common. Dalrymple led the Fourteenth to Faneuil Hall and forced town officials to open the doors.

Under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Dalrymple, the regiments arrived in the harbor from Halifax three days ago, escorted by men-of-war of the Royal Navy. Two other Regiments, the 64th and 65th, have been ordered to Boston by Lord Hillsborough, secretary of state for the colonies. The operation was supervised by Major General Thomas

Gage, commander-in-chief of Britain's forces, who came up from New York City only a short while back.

Despite rumors that the Sons of Liberty planned to rouse the country and actively resist the troops, the disembarkation has taken place peacefully. Andrew Oliver, onetime Stamp Master for Massachusetts stated, "The sight of troops on the Common will allow me to sleep easy in my bed." General Gage had described the patriots as "a people who have ever been very bold in council but never remarkable for their feats of action."

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Chronicle of America, New York: DK Pub., 1997

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2001



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Robert Mirick, MNSAR President

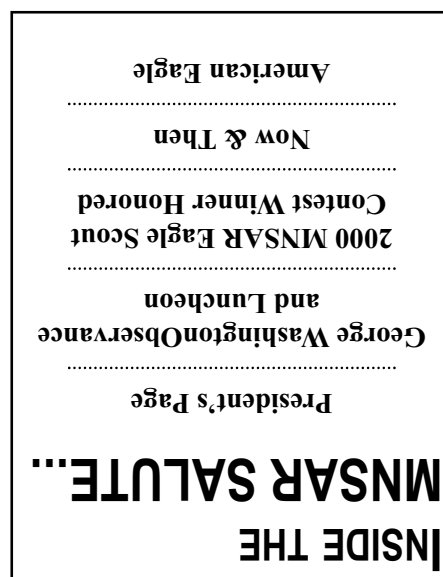
I spent a very interesting couple of hours at the 42nd Annual Tri-Service Review at the University of Minnesota in April. Minnesota S.A.R. was one of 31 organizations giving awards to outstanding members of the Army, Navy-Marine Corps and Air Force units.

The 451st Army Band furnished musical selections to begin the pro-

gram. The Units formed up and were reviewed by the dignitaries and spectators present. The guest speaker was General John W. Vessey, who began his military career as a private in the Minnesota National Guard in 1939 and ended it as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States.

He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on the battlefield at the Anzio Beachhead in May, 1944. After WW II he served at many important locations all over the world

continued on page 3



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Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



PRISCILLA FARNHAM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPEAKS AT WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

On March 17, forty-seven members and spouses of the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution attended the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

Minnesota SAR President Robert Mirick opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance, the SAR creed and the invocation, luncheon was served. Rolls and a salad with creamy ranch dressing started our tasty luncheon. Roast beef, mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy, and corn made up the main course. For dessert we were treated to vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce, and, to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day, a green pear half.

After luncheon the assemblage removed to the ball room to take in the slide presentation by Priscilla Farnham, executive Director of the Ramsey County Historical Society. Her topic was entitled *Jane Gibbs and the Dakotah Indians*.

In September of 1835, six-year-old Jane DeBow arrived at Lake Harriet

with the family of a missionary, the Reverend Jedediah Stevens. His goal was to bring Christianity to the American Indians living in the western reaches of the country and to teach them the farming methods of the white settlers. A year earlier, as child of five and with a desperately ill mother, Jane had been turned over to the Stevens family who were passing through her home in upper New York state on their way west.

They built a schoolhouse and a mission house on the northwest shore of Lake Harriet. Jane would come to know the Dakota in the village of *Mahpiya Wicasta* or Cloud Man. She had little trouble learning the language of her new neighbors and making friends with the other children.

When Jane grew older she would leave Minnesota for Illinois, meet there a young teacher named Heman Gibbs, marry him, and return to the newly-created territory of Minnesota where they would establish the farm that is now Gibbs Farm Museum. As her Dakota friends traveled to the rice

lakes to the north of Ramsey County, they followed an old Indian trail that wound through the Gibbsses' farm and they would stop for a visit with Jane that sometimes lasted several weeks. What she learned of their lifestyle—their bark lodges, their tipis, their gardens—would remain with her the rest of her life. That special lifestyle is now replicated at the museum where a tipi is in place, a Dakota garden is planted, and a bark lodge replicated.

The relationship between Jane Gibbs and the Santee Dakota has changed the interpretation at the Gibbs Farm Museum. The focus date is now 1850, which allows museum interpreters to discuss the beginnings of Heman and Jane's life there as well as their continual connection to the Dakota. The visits of the Dakota that followed the trail that crossed their land continued for more than a decade. The old trail is represented and marked at the Gibbs Farm Museum. A physical historical rendering, it reveals the migratory culture of the Dakota as well as their



method for transporting goods and equipment. Coupled with the accounts of the Gibbs family, the trail marks the bond of friendship between Jane and her Dakota childhood friends. The Dakota knew they could camp at the farm and that they always would be greeted as friends.

Although a bark lodge probably never stood on the site of the museum, a reconstruction is reminiscent of Jane's experiences as a young girl at Lake Harriet where she would have seen several bark lodge villages.

After the presentation Priscilla Farnham allowed us to take home copies of *Ramsey County History*, an award winning quarterly magazine. A detailed article entitled *The Two Worlds of Jane Gibbs: The Gibbs Farm and the Santee Dakota* is in the Spring 2000 issue.



CENTRAL MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT HONORED AT WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON



Zachary Ivan Smith received the Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy for his winning essay of the Minnesota SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

Zachary Ivan Smith, of the Central Minnesota Council Boy Scouts of America, received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Zachary, from Nevis, Minnesota was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. His mother and father were also in attendance. Zachary read his patriotic essay entitled *A Symbol of Freedom* which is presented in its entirety in this newsletter.

Zachary's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners for a \$8,000 scholarship. \$4,000 and \$2,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen. This year's national winner was the Tennessee Society candidate, Christopher David Pickler. The first runner-up was John Paul Remorenko, Jr. of Georgia and the second runner-up was Clifford Alf Gullans, II of New York.

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and as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans and as the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. Each of the presidents since his retirement in 1985 has asked him to serve in special capacities because of his ability and great knowledge of world conditions.

General Vessey has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland, a Master of Science degree from George Washington University and has completed the University of Pittsburgh's Management Program for Executives. He also has attended many colleges connected with the armed forces. He now lives in Crow Wing County, Minnesota, with his wife of 56 years. His presentation was not only very interesting, but well presented. I considered it a privilege to be among those present.

The ROTC units were smartly uniformed and marched well in their formations. I presented awards to Army Cadet James Enright, Naval Midshipman Martin Wood and Air Force Cadet Sara Loyd.

The Awards Coordinator, Tony Yulo AFROTC, did an outstanding job in keeping the program rolling along— as he

did last year at the ceremony which I attended.

ROTC AWARDS

Fourteen other young men from ROTC units located throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the Minnesota SAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDALS

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis and twelve Saint Paul area high schools this year. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal are *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service*, and an appreciation of *Patriotism*.





A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

by Zachary Ivan Smith—

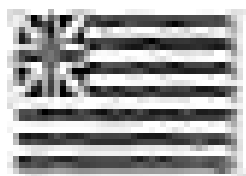
2000 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

On the eve of the Revolutionary War in the 1760s the thoughts of the colonists were occupied by oppressive taxes and cumbersome regulations. The English flag, known as the *Red Ensign*, flew over the thirteen colonies. Each of the colonies had its own flag. No one flag represented all of the colonies. This symbolized the struggles and trials the people were going through to find their identity as a unified colony.

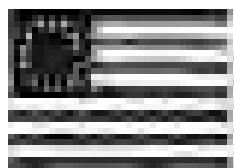


As the seeds of revolution were spread through the colonies, thoughts soon turned to acts of revolt that led to war. Even before the Declaration of Independence the colonists flew a new flag. The new flag, known as the Grand Union flag, was raised over George Washington's headquarters outside Boston on January 1, 1776. This flag retained the union of the English flag together with seven red stripes and six white stripes, a total of thirteen stripes representing the

thirteen colonies.



After the signing of the Declaration of Independence the colonists declared themselves to be a united nation. A rallying symbol was needed to show the unity of the thirteen united states. This was accomplished by a short resolution of the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. "Resolved that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternated red and white. The union will be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." This resolution, however, was quite broad and because it didn't provide specific details caused a bit of confusion, which resulted in several different designs. However, the thirteen stars and stripes became the symbol of the pursuit of freedom for the people of the new nation.



What is it about this starred and striped piece of cloth that inspires people to risk or even give their lives to protect and honor it? The flag represents the blood, the tears and the sacrifices of our ancestors for a cause greater than themselves. The flag brings to mind the starving, freezing soldiers at Valley Forge and the courage of the Minutemen. It reminds us that although many colonists felt it could not be done, the patriots fought and won their independence.

But not all of the work has been done to preserve freedom. Even though our ancestors fought and won their independence, to each generation rests the patriotic duty to have the willingness to preserve that freedom. This means that each generation must be diligent in ensuring that our flag never becomes a symbol of oppression as the English flag was for the colonists.

Our flag has undergone changes as new states have been added. One of the strengths of our country is the ability to change and adjust to new times and new people. In doing this it has made our country stronger. For these new

people, as it was for the colonists, the flag is the symbol of new-found freedom.

To some the flag is a mere piece of cloth. To those who study and understand history, the flag has represented for over two hundred years the thoughts and principles of independent and free thinking people. What does the flag mean to you?



The MNSAR is saddened to learn that our friend and good member, Brother Paul John Ostendorf, died on Monday, February 26, 2001.

At the time of death he was serving as President of the Minneapolis Chapter, and was our nominee for National Trustee from Minnesota for election at the National Congress in Louisville in late June. He had been our chairman for the Historical Oration Contest for the past few years.

We remember Paul as a dedicated SAR worker and will miss his enthusiasm and friendship.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



NOW & THEN

William Arthur Harris is a third generation native of Northeast Minneapolis, his grandfather, Arthur William Harris having moved there from Nobleboro, Maine in 1880. Bill has been in the SAR for about four years.

Bill met Harriet Dustin in 1939 and they were married during Bill's six-day leave from the Army in December, 1942. He served in World War II in Headquarters Battery, 38th Field Artillery Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Division, V Corps of the First Army under General Hodges. He reached the rank of Technical Sergeant. Bill operated a radio relaying messages from the front lines to headquarters. He landed in Europe at Omaha Beach on D-Day Plus 1 and saw eleven months of combat that took him from Normandy to Brest to Elsenborn (during the Battle of the Bulge) and finally ending at Pilsen, Czechoslovakia on V-E Day.

His oldest son was born after he was sent overseas. Bill Jr. was two-years-old when Bill Sr. came home from the war. Bill has three other sons, three granddaughters, one grandson, and two great-grandchildren.

Bill made his career as a piano technician at McGinnis and then at Schmidt Music.

He enjoys retirement now but still finds time to tune pianos at his clients' request.

During a family trip to Nobleboro, Maine he discovered his Revolutionary War ancestor. Oliver Randall was born in Easton, Massachusetts in August, 1761. In May or June, 1777 he volunteered to serve six months as private in Captain Joseph Cole's company, Colonel John Jacobs' Massachusetts regiment, and was in General Spencer's expedition to Rhode Island. He enlisted in the Winter or Spring of 1778 and served nine or ten months as private under the same officers, and was in General Sullivan's Rhode Island expedition.

Sullivan, with about 10,000 men divided between Generals Greene and Lafayette, had marched to try to recover Newport, RI from the British. They were to rendezvous with Comte d'Estange's fleet. Britain's General Clinton collected a force of 5,000 to come to the aid of General Pigot, who held Newport with about 3,000 troops, while Admiral "Black Dick" Howe set sail for Rhode Island. Hearing of Howe's approach, d'Estange reembarked his troops and sailed out to meet him. On the night of August 11 the ships of both fleets were scat-

tered by a violent storm, and both had to sail away for repairs. In the meantime, the French withdrawal had so disgusted Sullivan's militia that more than 5,000 of them went home. Sullivan had to retreat from the eagerly pursuing Pigot, and the Newport expedition ended in a fiasco.

Oliver Randall enlisted in June or July, 1780, served as private in Captain Abner Howard's company, Colonel Bailey's Massachusetts regiment, and was present at the execution of Andre, and was discharged in January, 1781.

After the war he moved to the town of Leeds, Maine, perhaps receiving a grant of land as many soldiers did. He was a farmer there, marrying and having a large family of children. He left Leeds just after 1800 and went to Bangor, Maine, where several of his later children were born. (His grand-daughter, Maria L. Randall married into the Harris family.)

When the War of 1812 broke out the old martial spirit aroused in him and, although about fifty-four years old, he enlisted for five years, served as a corporal in Captain Joseph Treat's company, 21st Regiment U.S. Infantry, and while on guard at Fort Erie in Upper Canada on August 13, 1814, received

a wound by a cannon shot in his right arm, fractured the bone causing amputation of the arm below the elbow which rendered him unfit for duty and he was discharged March 5, 1815. It was probably for that reason and because he was a Revolutionary War veteran, that he was appointed as toll-gatherer of the Kenduskeag bridge before it was made free. He was also made the town sexton of Bangor for 1817 and 1818.

Oliver Randall died September 24, 1846.

Sources:

A Biographical History of Robert Randall and his Descendants
by William L. Chaffin,
The Grafton Press, 1909

George Washington's War by Robert Leckie, First HarperPerennial edition published 1993.

Oliver Randall's Revolutionary War
Pension Records.



A French map of the Newport expedition.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday, December 13, 1770

BRITISH ACQUITTED OF MASSACRE

Two soldiers found guilty of manslaughter

Boston, Mass.— The jurors deliberated for just two and a half hours yesterday. After they filed back into the courtroom on Queen Street the verdict against Corporal William Wemms, Privates James Hartigan, William McCauley, Hugh White, William Warren and John Carroll were all not guilty.

The verdict against Matthew Kilroy and Hugh Montgomery were different: “Not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter.” These were the two soldiers whom witnesses had seen firing their weapons on March 5, 1770, an event known as the Boston Massacre.

These two men were held for sentencing, and the others were released.

John Adams and Josiah Quincy provided a brilliant defense. The most notable witness was Dr. John Jeffries who had been treating Patrick Carr for his wounds until, four days after the shootings, the Irish boy died.

Dr. Jeffries had questioned his dying patient often about the circumstances of the fatal night. “I asked him,” Dr. Jeffries tes-

tified, “whether he thought the soldiers would fire.” Carr answered that he had thought they would fire much earlier and that the soldiers would have been injured if they hadn’t fired. “Did they fire in self-defense or purposely to kill civilians?” “In self-defense.” Carr told the doctor that he did not blame the man, whoever he was, who had shot him.

Colony law permits unsworn testimony from someone who knew he was dying.

British troops arrived in Boston in September, 1768 in response to rioting against unpopular taxes.

Tensions had run high until the fateful night of March 5, 1770, when a small crowd started harassing Hugh White, at his sentry post on King Street. Captain Preston of the Twenty-ninth Regiment called out one corporal and six grenadiers with bayonets fixed and muskets ready to protect Private White.

The mob grew larger as the British soldiers arrived. Snow and chunks of ice were hurled toward the sol-



The Bloody Massacre left five patriots dead and six wounded.

diers as they were taunted to fire their weapons. Without any order from their captain, the British soldiers began to shoot.

Dead were Samuel Gray and a former slave named Crispus Attucks.

As the crowd pressed nearer, the British fired from even closer range. Three more bodies lay dead. Patrick Carr was struck by a bullet that tore away his backbone to the hip. James Caldwell and seventeen-year-old Samuel Maverick were also killed. Six others were wounded.

As a result of the Boston Massacre the British troops evacuated to Castle

William.

Captain Thomas Preston was acquitted of any wrongdoing on October 30 after a six-day trial. Captain Preston's became the first criminal trial in Massachusetts history to run more than one day.

John Adams, along with another patriot lawyer, Josiah Quincy, defended Captain Preston.

Ironically, Josiah Quincy's older brother, Samuel, a Tory and one of the crown's prosecutors, opened the argument against Preston.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2001



NSSAR TRUSTEE'S MEETING

The Fall Trustee's Meeting was held at National Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday, September 29, 2001. The trustees received packets which included the written reports of all the officers of the NSSAR and the vice president generals of the 15 districts.

I was especially moved when the men opened the meeting by singing

the National Anthem without accompaniment. All the men sang with gusto. The low voices sounded beautiful.

During the meeting oral reports were given by many of the officers and committees. Numerous awards and medals were given this past year by the Executive Committee. Many state societies and chapters presented checks to the SAR Library Fund.

Among the resolutions that were passed was one to raise application fees. Until now application fees were

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



ANNUAL CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON HELD AT FORT SNELLING OFFICER'S CLUB

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club on Saturday, September 15, 2001. President George Walker of the Minnesota SR opened the luncheon with a moment of silence to reflect upon the tragic events of the terrorist attacks on Manhattan Island and Washington D.C. the previous week.

The pledges to the SAR and to the American Flag were followed by a very eloquent prayer given by John Hallberg Jones, Secretary-Treasurer of the MNSAR.

Compatriot Jones then presented five supplemental certificates to Marvin Stonecipher, one of our newer members, who has completed applications for five additional Revolutionary War ancestors. Our newest member, John Bradford Snell was presented with his member's certificate and rosette.

Our luncheon started with a tasty dinner salad served with creamy Italian dressing and a dinner roll. The main course consisted of sliced turkey breast served with mashed potatoes and gravy, green

beans with slivered almonds and watermelon chunks. Rainbow sherbet complemented our savory dinner very nicely.

Duane L.C.M. Galles, who had just completed his term as Vice President General of the North Central District NSSAR, introduced the incoming VPG, Col. William H. Lees of Boone, Iowa, who offered his and the Iowa Society's greetings.

Compatriot Galles then reported some highlights of the NSSAR Congress held in Louisville, KY this past July. He stated that it was a sadder meeting this year because the National Society President was ill and could not attend and in fact had passed away the first day of the congress. Duane also noted that ground-breaking for the new NSSAR Library took place during the congress.

As secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota SR, Compatriot Galles switched hats and their group conducted business including the election of their officers.

President Walker of the Minnesota SR then introduced the day's speaker, Hon. Bruce D. Willis. As judge in the Minnesota Court of Appeals, our

speaker hears and rules on many cases involving individual rights. Judge Willis spoke about the Bill of Rights in the twenty-first century. He then passed around a leaflet of the first ten amendments and gave us a little background about them.

Judge Willis stated that the Anti-Federalists of 1789 pushed for the passage of the Bill of Rights. He said that the Federalists felt that if you enumerated a bill of rights then surly something would be left out and it would be incomplete and therefore none should be attempted. At least five states would not ratify the new Constitution of the United States without the addition of a Bill of Rights. At first over 200 amendments to our new Constitution were proposed. James Madison whittled it down to nineteen and Congress further shortened it to twelve. In the end ten were ratified on December 15, 1791.

He noted that the first amendment dealt with the freedom of religion, speech and the press and then gave examples of how it has been challenged and upheld in the court of law over the years.

Judge Willis explained



how the second and third amendments were important to the people of their day and that the fourth through the eighth amendments dealt with the rights of the accused and how they have been interpreted for the past 210 years.

Judge Willis ended his dissertation with these words; "But I know, also, that laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths disclosed, and manners and opinions change with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also, and keep pace with the times."—*Thomas Jefferson to Samuel Kercheval, 1816.*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



FLAG CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



Merle Felling, President of Sauk Centre Welding and Machine Works, was surprised in being presented an award for his efforts in prominently displaying the American flag within the confine of his business area. Sauk Centre Mayor and MNSAR member, Paul Theisen presented the Flag Certificate to Mr. Felling on Flag Day.

Five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing their patriotism and love of country. This years recipients are:

- Anderson Dale Architects, Inc.
- PACAL Business Center
- Quality Park Products
- Seal Hi-Rise
- Wisconsin Central Limited, New Brighton

NOW & THEN

Mayor Paul K. Theisen of Sauk Centre has been a member of the MNSAR for about a year now. Mr. Theisen is a native of Rapid City, South Dakota.

Paul was a "Brown Boot" in the army in Atlanta, Georgia as a welding instructor from 1955 to 1957.

Paul met his wife Sandra in Des Moines, Iowa. At the time Paul worked for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company while Sandy was a dental lab technician. They have two children, David and Nicoli, and two grandchildren. David and his wife live in Saint Cloud where he works for Park Industries. Nicoli, her husband, and two children live in Jeffers, Minnesota. Nicoli is a secretary for the Rural Water Board.

Paul had owned the Hillcrest Motel in Sauk Centre and the Sauk Centre Fire Equipment Company. He is currently mayor. As Mayor of Sauk Centre he chairs all the City Council meetings, is spokesperson for the community and is the responsible person that the citizens come to air their concerns, be they

good things or not so good things. He is about to enter his final year as mayor having served nearly seven already.

Paul would like to see the MNSAR create a color guard and is interested in spearheading the task.

His revolutionary War ancestor is Andrew McPherran who enlisted in the York County Pennsylvania Battalion under Col. Anthony Wayne in March of 1776 and fought in the Battle of Three Rivers. They were then garrisoned at Fort Ticonderoga until the Fourth was merged with the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment of the continental line and was with General Washington in the terrible winter of 1777/78

at Valley Forge. Andrew McPherran also fought in the battles of Iron Hill, Brandywine, Germantown and other skirmishes. He was discharged in 1781, but not without placing a substitute in his position, in order to assist his father who was 84 years old and in need of his help.



GOOD MEN WANTED!

Show your pride in the
Sons of the American Revolution
Join the Color Guard Today!

Be at your best—The pay is good... *Free* million dollar breakfast when you order your uniform.

See your recruiter today to earn a place where it counts... In the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard!
Contact Compatriot Paul K. Theisen at 320/351-6221

SAR Salute



REMEMBERING NORMAN G. PATTERSON

Long time Minnesota SR and MNSAR member Norman G. Patterson passed away Friday, August 31, 2001. He was 90 years old.

Norman was born in Cleveland, Ohio to George and Minnie Patterson. He graduated from Iowa State College, Ames, in 1939 with a degree in agronomy. He married Gladys Winford of Sioux City, Iowa in July, 1941. He entered military service in January, 1944. After discharge, he and his family moved to Brookings, SD, where he taught in the agronomy department at Brookings State College. He moved to Woodbury County, Iowa, where he farmed and taught agriculture to returning G.I.s. He moved to Minneapolis in 1956, where he worked at the Department of Agriculture until his retirement.

Norman was well known for his genealogical research and writing. He passed away suddenly while conducting research in Missouri. He was also a member of the American Legion and the Irish Society. He is survived by his wife Gladys of 60 years, two sons, one daughter and six grandchildren.

2002 DUES NOTICE

The dues mailing has been done about a month earlier than in the past. This is because the reporting date for our annual report to headquarters has been moved up. With dues payable by January 1st, we had 90 days "grace period" in the past. We now have only 30 days, so we must file the report at the end of January. This means much less time for reminder notices, etc., and our policy is to drop anyone who is not paid when we send in the report. Thus it is very important that you mail dues in to us as promptly as possible. *Thank you* for your assistance. Please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275.

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lower than the cost to process them. Therefore a resolution was passed to raise the application fee to \$55 and the supplemental application to \$45.

A heated debate ensued during a resolution to protect all the various NSSAR funds (George Washington Endowment Fund, Building Fund, Eagle Scout Fund, etc.) under the umbrella of the SAR Foundation. The SAR Foundation was created to protect all the funds against claims and litigation. The way the individual funds work was not altered. After much debate the resolution passed.

Another resolution passed to call the recently acquired house at 531 Zane (adjacent to National Headquarters) the Patriot House.

The Long Range Planning Committee has launched the Census Project, an ambitious plan to raise our membership

from 26,000 to 800,000. Each chapter and state society is asked to appoint a census coordinator. Each member would fill out a census report form and each chapter would receive lists of qualified prospects for recruiting contacts. A detailed explanation of the Census Project is outlined in the September issue of the Headquarters Dispatch.

The District of Columbia Society SAR established the American Patriot Fund for the purpose of providing assistance for the minor children of the victims of the terrorist attacks at the Pentagon.

Of course the highlight of the Fall Trustee's Meeting was the Friday and Saturday night banquets. The food was plentiful and delicious. On both evenings a pianist accompanied our dinner with patriotic music. Everyone enjoyed the sing-along.

Certificates were issued to the many people who put last summer's National Congress together. The Gold Good Citizenship Medal was awarded posthumously to President General Butler and the Silver Good Citizenship Medal to his widow, Mrs. Bruce B. Butler, who was in attendance.

MNSAR CENTENNIAL REGISTRY

The Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution has 20 to 25 additional copies of our Centennial Registry on hand. The registry includes a member's index from 1889 to 1989 cross referenced with an ancestor's index. Just \$10 each! If you are interested in obtaining one please contact:

Arthur Louis Finnell

3917 Heritage Hills Drive #104

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55437-2633

612/893-9747 • ALFinnell@compuserve.com

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, June 10, 1772

KING'S SHIP DESTROYED

Lieutenant Dudingston badly wounded

Providence, Rhode Island—Last night patriots took advantage of the *Gaspee's* plight after being run aground. Earlier in the day Lieutenant Dudingston was trying to maneuver the *Gaspee* so that he could board Captain Benjamin Lindsey's sloop, *Hannah*, in search of smuggled goods. But some seven miles below Providence, Lindsey hove about at the end of Namquid Point, and Dudingston ran the *Gaspee*

aground as he tried to change course. The patriots knew that it would be well after midnight before the tides could lift Dudingston's schooner free.

Patriots collected eight of the largest longboats in the harbor, each with five sets of oars. The boats were taken out to Fenner's Wharf with their oars and rowlocks well muffled. Silently, the protesters rowed the boats into a line and moved toward the *Gaspee*. They got within sixty yards of



Patriots' Point of View

Too long dozing upon the brink of ruin

Earlier this spring, the British Government sent the *Gaspee* and *Beaver*, 8 gun navy schooners, to Rhode Island with orders to assist the Revenue Officers of the colony in stamping out smuggling and illicit trade. From the time the *Gaspee* arrived, its commander, Lieutenant William Dudingston, had been battling Newport's captains and crews. The local merchants complained that Dudingston was stopping every kind of vessel, even small boats heading to market. Whenever Dudingston was challenged, he refused to show his authorization papers, and when he uncovered smuggled goods he ordered them shipped to Boston, even though the law required that the shipowner be tried in the colony where his goods were confiscated. Governor Wanton of Rhode Island sent a vigorous protest to Admiral Montagu, Commander of the British North American Fleet and Dudingston's superior, only to receive an insolent letter in reply threatening to hang anyone who might attempt to obstruct his officers in the performance of their duties.

The *Gaspee's* burning should open some eyes. It was the American colonists, not the British, who has been "too long dozing upon the brink of ruin." The *Gaspee* affair should unite them again. Colonists must realize that an attack on one province is an attack on them all.

their target before a sentinel called, "Who goes there?" A minute later Lieutenant Dudingston, in his nightshirt, called, "Who comes there?"

"I am the sheriff of Kent," someone shouted back, "I have a warrant to apprehend you—so surrender."

Just then a member of the expedition fired through the darkness at Lieutenant Dudingston and exclaimed, "I have killed the rascal!"

Seconds later the attackers swarmed aboard the schooner and with fists and staves drove the crew below. The commander of the *Gaspee* was found to be seriously wounded and was carried to his cabin.

A medical student in the raiding party was summoned to the cabin where he found Dudingston with blood pouring from his wound. A musket ball had ripped open the lieutenant's groin.

After the commander's

wound was mended, the rebel leaders told the *Gaspee's* crew to collect their belongings, put them onto the boats and set out for shore. One of the raiding boats stayed behind to set the *Gaspee* on fire. From a distance the Rhode Islanders watched it burn down to the water line. The crew of the *Gaspee* were transported to Namquid Point and from there taken to Pawtuxet.

Earlier today, Rhode Island's deputy governor, Darius Sessions, called on Lieutenant Dudingston to make amends on behalf of the colony. He offered anything—money, surgeons, transfer to another place. The lieutenant asked that his men be collected and sent to Newport or Boston. But he refused to tell Sessions what had happened or who was involved.

Source: *Patriots*, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2002



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Robert Mirick, MNSSAR President

There is so much written today about the September 11 debacle in New York and the problems resulting from it that it seems to me that we miss one of the *very important* results of the affair— a result undoubtedly not intended by the perpetrators. Have you noticed the large number of persons you see on the street today who wear a small American flag pin

on their clothing? They are saying, "I am an American and proud of it! I am proud of my country and want to remind everyone of how fortunate we are to be Americans."

That is what the Sons of the American Revolution have been promoting for many years— *pride in our country!* That is what we stand for. That is why we want to remind everyone of our ancestors who fought to free our country from tyranny. Our armed forces are engaged now in an

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Paul, Minnesota—The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at the Lexington Restaurant on January 12, 2002. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by Robert Bicknell Mirick, President of the Minnesota Society, who led the pledge to the US flag and the pledge to the SAR. Compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave the invocation. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Minneapolis Chapter and the Saint Paul Chapter conducted their business.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Larry Larson Warren, President. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2001 and the program was already underway for 2002.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$200 to the Minneapolis Public Library for materials from the Revolutionary War period and \$50 to the Longfellow House Restoration Committee. It was noted that the sub-

scription to the NSSAR Magazine was renewed for a period of three years for the Minneapolis Public Library in August, 2000.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, William Leslie DeCoursey, called the meeting to order.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported that eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2001.

Normally there are twelve participating schools but one failed to supply a recipient. Letters were already sent to thirteen area schools to begin the program for 2002, having added one new school which requested inclusion in the program. Five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who regularly fly the flag.

Minnesota Society

The Trustees of the MNSSAR Endowment Trust proposed that the 2001 interest of \$129.34 be donated as follows: \$25.00 to cover the MGS dues, \$30.00 to the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, \$21.30 to cover the MN Genealogical Journal which we donate to the NSSAR Library, and the balance of \$53.04 to the NSSAR Library for Minnesota microfilms. The

proposal passed unanimously.

It was decided that the Duluth Funds are to be placed in the General Fund of the Society and that future donations continue to the Duluth Public Library.

A motion passed that the Minnesota Society endorse April 19, "Patriot's Day," as a proposed Minnesota State holiday.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

With the death of Compatriot Ostendorf last year, we have not continued the Joseph Rumbaugh Oration Contest. The 2001 contest had had no entries.

Compatriot Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Scholarship Program, indicating that 871 Eagle Scouts were mailed letters and applications. To date he has fourteen entries which will be judged in the next week or two for the Minnesota winner. As National Trustee for Minnesota, Tim will be traveling to Louisville in late February and will help judge the winner of the National competition.

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2002. All 17 units in Minnesota were part of the program in 2001. There is a new JROTC Unit in Saint Paul this year.

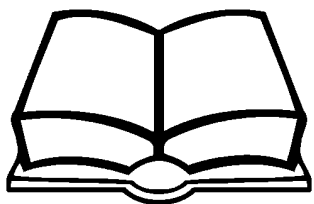
Membership

John Hallberg Jones reported that membership stood at 115, with 111 members of the MNSSAR and 4 dual members. He presented a membership certificate and rosette to James Fredrick Foster, one of our newest members. Early in the program John Jones presented the 25-year certificate and pin to compatriot James William Schramm for his long standing membership.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Minneapolis Chapter, Saint Paul Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by John Hallberg Jones. A complete list of new officers is listed on the back of this newsletter. Compatriot Jones then presented President Mirick with a certificate of appreciation and the past president's pin.

No further business appearing, the meeting was declared adjourned at 1:02 PM. Outgoing President Mirick read the SAR Recessional.



BOOK REPORT SECTION

Compatriot Arthur Louis Finnell

The Bloodstained Field A History of the Sugarloaf Massacre September 11, 1780

by Roger A. Moore
Heritage Books #M1488
2001 Soft Cover
Price: \$14.50 plus \$4.00
shipping and handling.
Available from Heritage
Books, Inc. 1540 E Pointer
Ridge Place, Bowie, MD
20716

The work focuses on the violent interaction between the Iroquois and the white settlers in the raucous Susquehanna Frontier of Northeastern Pennsylvania during the American Revolution.

In 1779, Sullivans Expeditions against the Iroquois attempted, but failed, to pacify the frontier. As Iroquois war parties and contingents of loyalist troops ravaged the frontier, patriot militia were hastily assembled and mustered into active service. Captain Daniel Klader was put in command of a detachment of Van Etten's Company for a dangerous mission that would take them into hostile country in search of Tory spies and sympathizers. On the fateful day, Klader and his men were unaware that a war party lead by Roland Montour plotted their massacre.

On September 11,

1780, a detachment of forty-one Northampton County, Pennsylvania Militiamen were surprised by a force consisting of thirty Seneca warriors and Tories. When the fighting was over, fifteen American patriots lay dead on the ground. Three more were taken prisoner, the remainder scattered throughout what is today the Sugarload Valley of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

This is a wonderfully written and documented look at this little known battle that provides some interesting details on the Loyalist, Indian War parties and Patriots actions on the frontier. Anyone interested in these areas of american history would want to have a copy of this fine book. A good example of what can be done with local historical events to connect them to the bigger picture of the period. The book contains several very good maps, illustrations, a bibliography and a full name and subject index.

New York Colonial Muster Rolls, 1664 - 1775 Report of the State Historian of the State of New York

Reprinted in two volumes
2000 Hard Cover
Price: \$85.00 plus \$4.75

postage and handling.
Reprinted and available
from Genealogical
Publishing Company,
1001 North Calvert St.
Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

Originally published as
appendices, or supplements,
to the *Annual report of the
State Historian of the State of
New York for the years 1897
and 1898*. The two volumes
contain transcripts of all colonial
muster rolls on deposit in
Albany for the years 1664-
1775.

The records contain a
variety of materials including
pay rolls, size rolls, petitions,
etc. and identifies approximately
30,000 men who served in the
various militia companies during
the years before the American
Revolution. Here is a new reprint
of these valuable records made
available to those with New York
roots. Both volumes appear to
be indexed together at the end
of Volume II.

Anyone with interest in New
York colonial records will want
to have these two fine volumes
available for their research. The
wealth of information and details
found here is beyond belief and
is a great place to start one's
New York colonial military
service research.

SAR AWARD ORGANIZERS SOUGHT

The MNSSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 26 Minneapolis area high schools and 17 ROTC units throughout Minnesota—in addition to the work involved being the MNSSAR 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 MNSSAR. If you are interested please contact John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275. His e-mail address is goodnewsjjones@sprintmail.com.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, December 17, 1773

BOSTON HARBOR A TEAPOT

Patriots dressed as Indians, dumped British tea into the ocean rather than pay taxes

Boston, Mass.— Last night war whoops were heard as the tea cargo of three ships were destroyed at Griffin's Wharf. In three hours patriots, dressed as Indians, dumped the tea into the harbor. The *Dartmouth*, *Eleanor*, and *Beaver* were not harmed.

The British commander Admiral Montagu surveyed the scene from a Tory's house. "The well organized rioters

worked swiftly and silently as they went about their destruction. The leaders and most of the rioters were dressed as Mohawk Indians and spoke in low grunts to avoid detection." Montagu, reviewing his options, decided that opening fire would kill a number of bystanders.

Today Griffin's Wharf looks more like a vast, dank beach. Tea lies upon the



harbor and clogs the sea lanes. Sailors have to row out to churn the sodden heaps and push them farther out to sea. As far away as Dorchester, tea was found spread like hay in long lines where the wind had carried it.

The *Dartmouth* had arrived in Boston Harbor on November 28 with one hundred and fourteen chests of tea. The *Dartmouth* carried other cargo besides tea, which the patriots allowed the crew to unload.

The patriots have conducted town meetings at Faneuil Hall and the Old South Meeting-house since the *Dartmouth* sailed into port.

Francis Rotch of Nantucket, one of the owners of the *Dartmouth*, agreed to send his chests of tea back to England. But because his ship already had been entered at the Custom House, he couldn't get

clearance for its return trip until he paid the tea duty. That duty couldn't be collected until the tea had been unloaded. The law gives him only twenty days to pay the tax or leave port. But he couldn't sail without a pass. Both the customs collector and Governor Thomas Hutchinson refused to issue a pass. Francis Rotch was caught between an angry patriot mob and the British authorities. The British would be justified in sinking the *Dartmouth* if he tried to run his ship out of the harbor without a pass. Last night, with only one day left, the patriots resolved his dilemma for him.

Today at the Green Dragon Tavern the Masons sang,

"Rally, Mohawks!
Bring out your axes
And tell King George,
we'll pay no taxes."

Source: *Patriots*, by A.J. Langguth,
Simon and Schuster, 1988

Patriots' Point of View Boycott East India Tea

In 1770 the Townshend Act imposed an import duty of threepence for every pound of tea, but it has also removed all duties in England from tea shipped to America. As a result tea from Britain costs less than smuggled tea.

In 1771 the East India Tea Company was near bankruptcy. To recover, the company raised the price of tea to three shillings a pound; tea in Holland cost only two shillings. Overnight, smuggling became profitable again.

In May 1773 Parliament offered the East India Company further relief by changing the law once more. In the past, the company had been required to sell its tea at a public auction. English traders bid on it and then exported it to merchants in America. Now the East India Company is permitted to handle both shipping and sales. That greatly lowered the price, but English and American traders are stripped of a great source of revenue. The new system benefits only those few men who are licensed by East India's monopoly to handle sales in the colonies. In Boston, five men comprise that favored group, including Thomas Hutchinson's two sons and son-in-law.

The new method for selling tea could be applied to other commodities. If other British companies adopt a similar approach then all trade would disappear and Americans would be reduced to fur trappers and lumberjacks.

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER SPRING 2002



NSSAR SPRING TRUSTEE'S MEETING

The Spring Trustee's Meeting was held at Spalding University a few blocks away from the NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday March 2, 2002. The Spalding University Auditorium is very spacious and has large painted windows, gold leaf ornamentation, crystal chandeliers and a balcony.

The trustees received packets which included written reports of all the officers, committees and vice president generals of the 15 districts of the NSSAR. Following is a sample of some of the reports and resolutions:

continued inside...

INSIDE THE

MNSSAR SALUTE...

NSSAR Trustee's Meeting

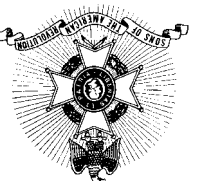
James Church Speaks at George Washington Luncheon

Minnesota Eagle Scout Wins National Competition

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



OUR OWN JAMES CHURCH SPEAKS ABOUT THE APOLLO MISSION: FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION

On February 23, forty-one members and spouses of the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution attended the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

Minnesota SAR President James Cecil Church opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave an eloquent invocation.

Rolls and a salad with creamy ranch dressing started our tasty luncheon. The main course consisted of sliced roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, and green beans. We were treated to a chocolate sundae for dessert.

After luncheon President Church introduced Col. William H. Lees, Vice President General of the North Central District NSSAR, who extended greetings to the MNSSAR.

George Walker, President of the Minnesota SR, introduced James Church as the day's speaker. Mr. Church spoke about the cold war during

the 1950s. The United States and the Soviet Union had atomic weapons on intercontinental ballistic missiles aimed at each other's country. People built bomb shelters and children practiced duck-and-cover in elementary school.

In 1957 the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the world's first man-made satellite. That event stunned the U.S. The Department of Defense was frightened because of possible military applications. They feared that the Soviet Union could someday put nuclear weapons on orbiting satellites and shoot them at America with the push of a button.

In May, 1961 President Kennedy challenged America to land a person on the moon before the end of 1969. At the time James Church worked at Aeorospace Corp. He took a 10% paycut and moved to Houston to work 60 to 80-hour weeks at the newly established NASA. James accepted a position as a senior manager in the emerging Apollo Spacecraft Program Office. Kennedy gave NASA only eight years to achieve



something that previously was only dreamed about.

James Church's presentation contained both audio and visual aids. We listened to a five-minute recording by Hugh Downs documenting the lunar landing achievement. Church also showed many slides on an overhead projector.

The United States launched the Mercury Program using the Atlas rocket to carry one astronaut into space. The second series of space flights was the Gemini Program, which carried two astro-

nauts into orbit to practice orbiting and docking procedures. It used the Titan II rocket. The final space program used a three-man 35-story high Apollo spacecraft, the two-man Lunar Module and a Saturn rocket.

James Church and the other senior managers, among many other tasks, were charged with finding companies to create, test, and manufacture many of the complicated systems and sub-systems of the complex Apollo spacecraft. Failure was not an option.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



James Church then used models of the the Apollo spacecraft to visually show how each aspect of the Apollo moon flight worked.

He ended his dissertation by explaining why the Apollo 17 flight of December 1972 may be the last manned space flight. Mars and our moon are the only suitable places a manned spacecraft can land in our solar system. Mars is 200 times farther from earth than the moon. That would be a 20-month trip— one way. The nearest star is Alpha Centauri which is four light-years away. That would be a nine year round trip at the speed of light— which is not possible. For now unmanned space flight is the way to go.

In the year 2000 Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. an American Historian, gathered a panel of historians to make a list of the one-hundred greatest achievements in the past 100 years. They decided that landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to earth was the greatest single achievement!

James Church is justifiably proud of his achievements— helping to create the Apollo Lunar Program.

MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS NATIONAL COMPETITION!



*Benjamin Jacob Ulrich
Banwart accepts the
Spreading Wings Eagle
Trophy from Tim
Harris, Minnesota SAR
Eagle Scout Committee
Chair.*

Benjamin Jacob Ulrich Banwart won first place and an \$8,000 scholarship for his entry in the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

Benjamin's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners. The competition was held the day before the Spring Trustee's Meeting on March 1, 2002, at the Camberly Brown Hotel. The national competition is much more rig-

orous because he competed against the best entries of over forty states.

Harry Madhanagopal of Florida won second place and a \$4,000 scholarship and Gabriel Fidler of Tennessee won a \$2,000 scholarship as second runner-up.

Benjamin, of the Viking Council Boy Scouts of America, was honored locally at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon on February 23, 2002. He received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota

winner. His mother, father and younger brother were also in attendance.

Benjamin read his patriotic essay about Benjamin Franklin which is presented in its entirety in this newsletter.

Benjamin also won the Minnesota prize for 1999 and last year he had the best entry from his B.S.A. Council.

Ben and his family are invited to attend the NSSAR Congress in Nashville, Tennessee where he will be honored at the Youth Awards Luncheon on July 1, 2002.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: LIFE LONG PATRIOT

by Benjamin Jacob Ulrich Banwart—
2001 MNSSAR and NSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

When people hear the name Benjamin Franklin, they usually think of a stocky man with long gray hair who flew a kite in a thunderstorm. Although some people know that he played some role in the American Revolution, many do not know of his variety of accomplishments and of their significance to how we live today. Benjamin Franklin's efforts in politics, education, science, philosophy, and literature have had profound and positive results that make our country what it is today.

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in Boston, Massachusetts, to a modest New England family. As a child, Benjamin had a strong interest in education and literature. He moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as a young adult, and through many printed publications, such as *Poor Richard's Almanack*, he spread his wisdom and ideas about the colonial situation. In so doing, he exerted a pervasive influence upon the American character. Benjamin's astuteness and awareness

was evident when his articles got wide notice and acclaim for their pithy observations about the colonial scene.

Also, through many of his scientific experiments, Benjamin answered many questions that lead to inventions that improved peoples' lives. Those inventions included the lightning rod, the Franklin stove, and bifocal spectacles. He also developed new ideas to educate youth, established the first public library in the United States, and organized the first fire companies. His desire to make the colonies and the world better was what made him become one of the forerunners in "fighting" the American Revolution.

As a powerful leader, he was sent to England as chief representative of the American colonies. As tensions in the colonies grew stronger, Benjamin played a major role in trying to have the British treat the colonists more fairly. Although he played an essential role in having the Stamp Act repealed, and hoped war could be prevented, the tensions were too overwhelming. The

Revolutionary War began.

Benjamin was a man of great character and a true patriot. He became a part of the Second Continental Congress, and was on the committee assigned to draft the Declaration of Independence. Although he did not fight on any battlefields, Benjamin fought with his mind. He negotiated a treaty of commerce and the defensive alliance with France which led to major victories that culminated with Benjamin Franklin signing the Treaty of Paris in Versailles, ending the American Revolutionary War. Finally, Benjamin Franklin helped draw up and sign the U. S. Constitution, the prize that he sought throughout his life.

Benjamin Franklin was

a man ahead of his time. His efforts helped lead to the formation of the United States of America. Benjamin possessed many great characteristics such as loyalty, helpfulness, trustworthiness, and bravery, to name a few. His personal qualities are the same qualities that Boy Scouts live by. When we take a closer look at this great individual in American history, we see how he dedicated his life to helping others. He is a true hero of the time. These same lessons are being used today in the wake of the September 11th tragedy. We see how hardship can bring out the best in people. Benjamin Franklin has taught us that the strongest in character will prevail.

GOOD MEN WANTED!

Show your pride in the
Sons of the American Revolution
Join the Color Guard Today!

Be at your best—The pay is good... *Free* million dollar
breakfast when you order your uniform.
See your recruiter today to earn a place where it counts...
In the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard!
Contact Compatriot Paul K. Theisen at 320/351-6221
paulktheisen@mainstreetcom.com

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday, October 24, 1774

DEFIANT CONGRESS MEETS IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, PA— For seven intense weeks the Continental Congress met to spell out the grievances with Britain and suggestions for resolving them.

As speaker of the Pennsylvania House, Joseph Galloway had offered the House chamber to the Congress. Others opposed his suggestion and led the delegates instead to Carpenters' Hall. There they found a

white-paneled room, not large but beautifully proportioned, together with a library and a long hall where delegates could stroll and caucus, all overlooking a quiet square. In the first vote of the Continental Congress, a great majority decided to make the tradesmen's building their home.

The Congress had to confront one crucial question early on. Should each of the twelve colonies— Georgia had



Patriots' Point of View Intolerable Acts are a flagrant injustice

On the same day that Thomas Hutchinson left for England, June 1, 1774, Governor Gage enacted the Port Act. The Boston customs office has been transferred to Plymouth. No vessel is permitted to enter Boston Harbor. Only boats carrying fuel or supplies for the town are admitted, even those have to stop for inspection at Marblehead. Massachusetts government was from that day forward moved to Salem. Other new laws allow the king to name the governor's council, rather than letting the colony's house select its members. The governor is given sole power to appoint sheriffs and judges in the lower courts. Each community is limited to one town meeting a year and then only to elect municipal officers.

Even in the evil history of Constantinople there is nothing to match the flagrant injustice of these barbarous acts. Our oppressors cannot force us into submission by reducing us to a state of starvation. We can subsist independently of all the world. The real wants and necessities of man are few.

The citizens of every colony should ask themselves whether they consider Boston now as suffering in the common cause. In Virginia, the Burgesses declared June 1 a day of fasting and prayer. Other colonies have joined the *Solemn League and Covenant* and have pledged to halt all trade with Britain until the Port Act is repealed.

declined to send delegates— have one vote or should votes be allotted to colonies on the basis of their population or wealth? After much debate it was decided that each colony, whatever the size, was taking the same risk in opposing Britain and they gave each colony one vote. As Patrick Henry put it... "The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers and New Englanders are no more— I am not a Virginian but an American."

In late September, Congress adopted a motion for the non-importation of goods from England starting December 1 and a ban on exports to take effect in one year until British trade and taxation policies are changed.

In Boston, a set of resolutions called the Suffolk Resolves passed at a county meeting. They declared that the Port Act needn't be obeyed

and called on the people to prepare for a defensive war against England whenever Boston sounded the alarm. Some recognized the Suffolk Resolves as a declaration of war but they were presented to the Congress so reassuringly that rejecting them would be disowning Boston in its hour of distress.

Delegates of the Congress included Samuel Adams, George Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, John Adams, John Jay, Joseph Galloway, John Dickinson, Major John Sullivan and Nathaniel Folsom. Peyton Randolph of Virginia was chosen president of the Congress.

The delegates made plans to hold another Congress the following May, if necessary.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2002

NSSAR 112TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

Tim Harris, National Trustee for MN

July 1-2, 2002 Nashville, TN—
The 112th Congress of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution was held in the spacious ballroom of the Stouffer Renaissance Nashville Hotel. We were greeted with a five piece brass band playing patriotic music.

463 guests and delegates pre-reg-

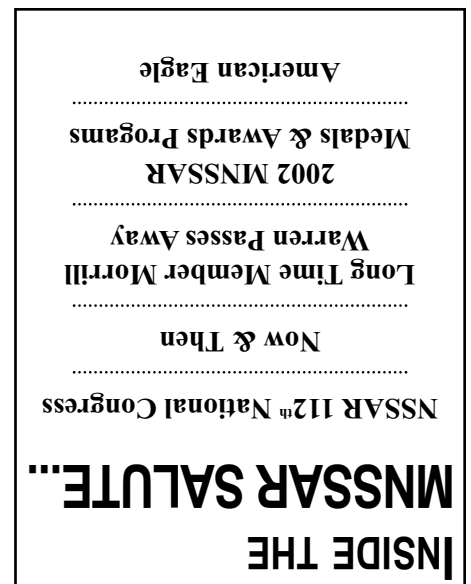
istered for the event. Written reports were presented by the many committees and vice president generals of the 15 districts. Following is a sample of the more important proceedings and resolutions:

By-Law Amendments

The amendments that were approved at the Spring Trustee's meeting were debated. The first

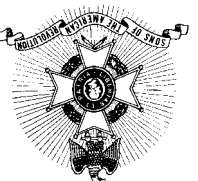
amendment changes by-law no. 19 from what was resolved at the Spring Trustee's Meeting. Every instance a dollar amount is currently fixed, the dollar amount will be removed and the words "*Shall be fixed by the annual Congress*" will be inserted in the place of the dollar amount. A simple majority will prevail.

continued inside...



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





...continued from page 1

A resolution was passed expressing gratification that the By-Laws Committee and Trustees amended their amendment to this present form.

By-law no. 18, dealing with nominations and Article III dealing with eligibility for membership, passed with no changes. (See the Spring SAR Salute for detailed information.)

After hearing proposals by the budget committee the congress increased national annual dues from \$20 to \$25.

An amendment to exempt existing state life members from the \$5 dues increase failed by a narrow margin. However, a compromise amendment to exempt state life members from paying the dues increase for two years did pass. This will allow State Societies to adjust their procedure in collecting national dues.

Resolutions

Eight resolutions were presented and passed by the National Congress. The Flag and Patriot's Day resolutions were highlighted in the Spring newsletter.

The first resolution honors Stephen Ambrose, who is gravely ill. Another resolution supports America's efforts for "Enduring Freedom". One resolution calls for immi-



Minnesota's Benjamin

Jacob Ulrich Banwart

and Tom Burgess,

NSSAR Eagle Scout

Committee Chair.

gration reform and another that American history be taught more diligently in our nation's schools. The last resolution supports the PASSAR for their efforts in protecting Valley Forge from private development.

Youth Awards Luncheon

Five young men were honored at the youth recognition luncheon on Monday. Minnesota's Benjamin Banwart was honored for winning the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program at the national level. His father, mother and brother also attended the luncheon.

Tom Burgess, the National Eagle Scout Committee Chair presented Benjamin with an \$8,000 check and a book entitled "Eagle Scouts in Action" which includes biographies of Eagle Scouts. Tom remarked that he expects future editions of the book

to include a biography of Benjamin.

The other youth winners were Nathan William Skelly of Missouri who won the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest, Jonathan Coward of Florida is the NSSAR Outstanding JROTC Cadet for 2002, Gregory Price of Maryland, the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Award winner, and David James Sweeny who was recently elected National President of the C.A.R. from Pennsylvania.

Each young man presented his winning essay or oration

Minnesota was awarded an eagle trophy and certificate for sponsoring the national winner.

Following additional business the new slate of national officers and trustees were installed on Tuesday morning.

Long Time Member Morrill Warren Passes Away

Sadly our senior member both in terms of age and in longevity of membership passed away on Saturday, 16 March, 2002, one day short of his 92nd birthday. Last year he was with us for our luncheon on March 17th, which was his 91st birthday. Morrill T. H. Warren, of Bloomington was also a member of DAV, St. Louis Park VFW Post 5632, American Legion, Paul Revere Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Sojourners, OES Acacia Chapter, Society of Mayflower Descendants, Society of Cincinnati, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

Warren Morrill became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution 22 November 1939. He was our senior member.

His son, Larry Larson Warren, is currently the President of the Minneapolis Chapter, SAR.

Morrill Warren was laid to rest at Acacia Park Cemetery.



2002 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



Flag Certificates

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

- Tony Andersen Group, St. Paul
- Holiday Truck & Equip., New Brighton
- Lee Collins, LTD, New Brighton
- Marudas Print Services, New Brighton
- Superior Flooring, New Brighton

ROTC Awards

Eighteen young men from ROTC units located throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the Minnesota SAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis and twelve Saint Paul area high schools this year. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service*, and an appreciation of *Patriotism*.

New MNSSAR Members:

John Lansing Callaghan
Scott Arthur Grosscup
Nathan Michael West
Andrew Walter Braun
Randall Roger Nelson

NOW & THEN

James Frederick Foster is one of the newest members of the MNSSAR having become a member last November. He joined because he feels that it is important we remember our heritage.

Jim is a native of Albert Lea, Minnesota. He and his wife Donna currently live in Red Wing. They have two grown sons, Sidney and Fred, and four grandchildren.

James is semi-retired having worked in manufacturing, engineering and machining for over 38 years. He has recently been doing some consulting.

James Foster joined the MNSSAR to honor his ancestor, Jedediah Wellman. He is listed on the muster roll of Keene, New Hampshire of 1773. He was one of 117 officers and men of the Foot Company, 6th Regiment NH Militia. Records indicate that some members of the Foot Company were

among reinforcements summoned to Lexington and Concord. They also participated in the Battle of Bennington.

Jedediah Wellman was one of the signers of a resolution signed by the people of the town of Keene which reads in part:

"We the Subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risk of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets and Armies against the United American COLONIES."

In November 1776 Jedediah Wellman was involved in setting up houses in Keene for inoculating citizens against small pox, in addition to being a Surveyor of Highways.

James Foster is currently working on four supplementals from the Foster, Hudson, Wheelock and Cleaveland families.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 21, 2002. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, December 17, 1774

FORT WILLIAM AND MARY SACKED

Portsmouth Committee of Correspondence seize and safeguard military provisions

Newcastle, NH— For the second time in less than forty-eight hours, a British military installation, Fort William and Mary, had been captured and sacked by colonial forces. Although the raiders made no attempt to permanently occupy the garrison and allowed seventy heavy cannon to remain in the fort, they worked throughout the cold winter night of December 15/16, tramping through frigid tide-water to load their plunder onto tidewater river boats known as gundalows.

The night's work wasn't completed until eight or nine o'clock yesterday morning, by which time Colonel Nathaniel Folsom had arrived from Exeter with a large contingent of heavily armed infantry and calvary. Folsom stationed his troops as a guard, waiting for the tide to change. At the turn of the tide, the captured cannon and other stores were, with difficulty, shuttled up the ice-choked Piscataqua River for safekeeping in other towns.

Fort William and Mary, formerly known as "the Castle," is a sorry, old low-walled stone structure, having been erected on Great (Newcastle) Island in the early 1600s to protect the approach to Portsmouth Harbor.

On December 13, Paul Revere was dispatched from Boston with a letter from William Cooper of that city to Samuel Cutts of the Portsmouth Committee of

Correspondence. Revere carried word that a royal order had been issued prohibiting the export of gunpowder to the colonies; that military provisions in Rhode Island had been moved inland by colonists for safekeeping; and that the British government intended to reinforce the tiny garrison at Fort William and Mary with soldiers of the regular army, or to remove the fort's powder.

At noon on December 14, members of the Portsmouth Committee marched through the streets, led by fifes and drums, loudly proclaiming their plan to attack Fort William and Mary. Within twenty-four hours of Paul Revere's message, the Portsmouth Committee had openly, unlawfully and with utter disregard for British authority, gathered over four hundred citizens of Portsmouth, Newcastle, Rye and Kittery, Maine to join in an armed attack of the British fort.

Having been warned of a potential conflict, Captain Cochran posted his small contingent of British soldiers to defend the fort. No sooner had he done so than the area outside the fort was teeming with men.

Captain Cochran admitted two rebel leaders to state their business. Once inside, John Langdon and Captain Robert White informed Cochran that they were going to carry off all of the gunpowder in the maga-

zine. Cochran replied that the waiting mob would have to take the powder by force and ordered Langdon and White out of the installation.

Before Cochran had time to catch his breath, a signal was given to the colonials to storm the fort. Musket fire and three cannon hurling four-pound shot were directed at the American ranks. Colonists rushed toward the walls just as they saw the King's soldiers lighting the matches of their cannon, thereby slipping under the guns. As the soldiers sought to reload, the colonists pressed forward. "Before we could fire again" Cochran reported, "we were stormed on all quarters..."

Cochran was quickly confined in the fort's guardhouse and the door to the powderhouse was broken down with a crow bar. The triumphant Americans seized at least five kegs of bullets, several thousand gun flints and all but one of the King's barrels of powder. The booty was swiftly loaded into gundalows and transported for hiding in various inland communities. Captain Cochran and his men were released after about one and-one-half hours of confinement.

After returning from the raid, the rebel leaders called upon neighboring towns to assist in planning a second attack on Fort William and Mary. Major John Sullivan and Colonel Nathaniel Folsom, both delegates of the Continental Congress just two months before, offered their assistance.

Hundreds of men—perhaps closer to 1,000—descended on Fort William and Mary at about ten o'clock p.m. on December 15. Sullivan approached the gate and was allowed to speak with Cochran. Sullivan explained that his men would be seizing "all the Province stores" at the fort.

Cochran showed a committee of three rebels what stores might possibly be put there by the province... which consisted of only forty or fifty old useless muskets and some considerable small stores of no value. Cochran then informed them that all the rest belonged to the King and warned them on their peril not to touch them.

Cochran's faith in American respect for the King's property was misplaced. In what appears to have been an orderly, triumphant second invasion of the fort, the companies waiting outside simply overran the installation and seized all of the small arms, bayonets, cartridge boxes, assorted cannon shot, and other ordinance stores that they could locate.

In spite of Cochran's persistent warnings, they also seized sixteen of the King's prized cannon (fifteen four-pounders and a nine-pounder), ten carriages, the useless muskets which Cochran had previously pointed out, and forty-two serviceable muskets with shot.

Source: Fort Constitution, by Thomas F. Kehr, President NHSSAR, <http://www.sar.org/nhssar/essays/FortConstitution.htm>

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2002



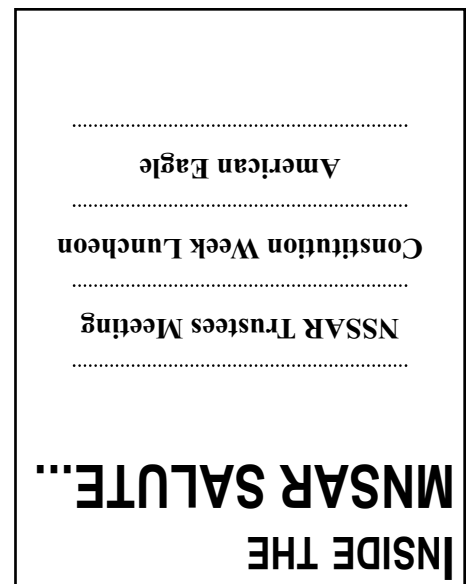
NSSAR FALL TRUSTEES MEETING

Louisville, Kentucky — The Fall Trustees Meeting was held at Memorial Auditorium across the street from NSSAR headquarters on Saturday, September 28, 2002. The wood paneled second floor room is twice as wide as it is deep with skylight windows in the ceiling. The trustees sat in a semi-circle facing the podium perched upon a riser for the National Society President. A new

flag commemorating the victims of 9/11 hung behind the podium on a curtained wall. The entrance to the room is on either side of the podium.

The past president's messages followed the presentation of gifts to NSSAR. We heard reports from the general officers and the vice president generals of the fifteen districts of the NSSAR.

continued inside...



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



MINNESOTA SAR Salute



ANNUAL CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS



Three new members were awarded a certificate and their rosette. From left to right are: Glenn Morris Edberg, Larry Wray Sisk and Randall Roger Nelson, .

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 21, 2002. MNSSAR President James Church opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

The MNSSAR Chaplain, Rev. Richard Kenne Smith, Jr., followed with the invocation.

Our luncheon consisted of a very generous helping of beef stroganoff topped with sour cream and served with a dinner roll. For dessert we were treated to a three layer parfait with whipped lemon, cream cheese and nut-crumbs on the bottom. It was topped with whipped cream and slivered almonds.

After luncheon the Minnesota Sons of the

Revolution conducted their business. Following that John Hallberg Jones, our Secretary-Treasurer, presented certificates and rosettes to three new members of the MNSSAR.

Tim Harris was asked to report highlights of the NSSAR Congress held in Nashville, Tennessee. Tim reported that he made a family vacation around the congress and did not stay for the whole event. He did attend the Trustees meeting and the congress which was reported in the Summer issue of the Minnesota SAR newsletter. The highlight of the congress for Tim was the Youth Awards Luncheon where the Minnesota Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest winner was honored as the National winner. John Jones then presented Tim with a certificate for Benjamin Banwart, the

Minnesota Eagle Scout, for representing Minnesota as the National winner. Tim will forward it to Benjamin Banwart.

John Jones introduced the Vice President General of the North Central District NSSAR, Col. William H. Lees of Boone, Iowa, who offered his and the Iowa Society's greetings. Bill Leeds also reported on the NSSAR Congress, noting progress being made in the National Census Project. He also talked about the new NSSAR Library, which will be a very beautiful, stately edifice and a welcome addition to the national headquarters when it is completed.

Col. Leeds then welcomed all that can to attend the Revolutionary War Memorial which will be dedicated on November 11th on the grounds of the

Iowa State Capital. It is being erected to commemorate the 32 Revolutionary War veterans buried in Iowa. If you are interested in attending please contact John Jones for details.

President Church ended by speaking about the re-birth of patriotism following the events of September 11, that rival the patriotism following the bombing of Pearl Harbor. It reflects the patriotism that members of the SAR and the SR have always felt. He stated that he hopes the United States is judicious regarding a military build-up around Iraq.

The Reverend Richard Keene Smith, Jr. ended the days events with a very eloquent benediction.



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Resolutions

A resolution against the Earth Charter which was already passed by the Mid-Atlantic, North Atlantic, and New England Districts and Middle Atlantic States Conference was presented to the trustees. The resolution was given to the Resolutions Committee for consideration. The trustees were urged to present the resolution to their home chapter and State society for passage.

The Texas Society SAR proposed a resolution to congratulate the Louisville Little League team for winning the Little League World Series, which passed easily.

The Chancellor General proposed that we call a special Congress hosted by the French Society in Paris on February 4-9, 2003. The motion was amended to limit the Congress to French Society business only.

Library Fund

The Fund Raising Task Force stated that we raised 1.5 million dollars, one-half the money needed for the Library Fund. A motion passed to pay \$80,000 to our resource company. Go to <http://www.sar.org/library/libfund.htm> to download a Capital Giving Pledge Form for the new Center



for Advancing American Heritage — the new NSSAR Library. Please give generously.

Census Project

The Census Project is an ambitious plan to raise our membership considerably. Everyone should have received the Census Report Form by now. All members are urged to take their time and fill out the form completely and turn it in. Check the website for more information and to download a Census Form at <http://www.sar.org/ressar/censusq.htm>

Banquet

On Saturday evening a group of members entertained us in song. They are starting a 'barber-shop' group and this was their first attempt, having never sung together before.

We ate a hearty meal of prime rib, baked potato

and a vegetable medley. It was preceded by a leafy green salad and rolls. For dessert we ate cheese cake drizzled with strawberry sauce and served with a dollop of whipped cream on the side.

After dinner a video was shown of President General B. Rice Aston speaking at the Louisville 9/11 commemoration ceremony. He presented one of five custom made Commemorative Flags to Mayor Dave Armstrong and County Judge Rebecca Jackson.

He then flew to

Arlington Virginia and to Shanksville, PA where he also spoke at the one-year anniversary commemorations. He presented flags there as well.

A slide presentation was shown of the 9/11 anniversary commemoration at Saint Paul's Chapel which was used as a command/replenishing center one year earlier because of its proximity to ground zero. As soon as President General B. Rice Aston presented them with the custom made flag they hoisted it up their flag pole.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual General Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul on Saturday, January 11, 2003. Committees meet at 10 AM. Meeting begins at 11 AM. Luncheon (from the menu) will be served at noon. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, April 19, 1775

WAR!

Eight Americans Lay Dead on Lexington Green

Lexington, Mass.— At 4:30 this morning as the drummer beat out the call to assemble, men ran onto the Green, carrying their rifles and muskets. The Lexington militia, under command of Captain Parker, stood fast as six companies of the British Light Infantry, dressed in their bright-scarlet uniforms, marched towards them. British Major John Pitcairn and his two hundred men faced a thin line of Minutemen, which numbered seventy-seven.

Pitcairn approached the Minute Men and bawled, "Disperse, ye villains, ye rebels! Disperse! Lay down your arms!" The Americans were not obeying Pitcairn's command to throw down their arms, but they were breaking ranks and walking away.

There was a flash of fire from a militiaman's musket, and then a shot rang out. Some claimed it came from some Americans near Buckman Tavern. The first few shots triggered a volley that tore the darkness apart. The excited regulars followed that with a bayonet charge through and over the heads of the dead, wounded, and retreating Minutemen.

When the smoke cleared eight Americans lay dead and nine were wounded.

In the aftermath Major Pitcairn formed his advance force of two hundred men on the Concord Road and awaited Colonel Smith and the main body.

General Gage had sent out nearly six hundred soldiers made up of twenty-one companies of his tallest and best-armed grenadiers and infantrymen, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith, to Concord for a dawn raid to destroy military stores collected there.

The Americans having learned of the raid, set up a signal for the Committee of Safety. Two lanterns were placed in the belfry of the Old North Church signalling that the British had started their raid by way of the Charles River.

The Americans sent two couriers to alert the countryside of the British troop movement. William Dawes was to ride by way of Roxbury Neck to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock who were staying in the parsonage of the Reverend Clarke in Lexington. Paul Revere was discreetly rowed across the Charles River where a horse was made ready for him to ride to Lexington by way of Charlestown and Menotomy with the identical warning, alerting all militia captains along the way.

Revere reached the parsonage a short time before Dawes. After warning Adams and Hancock to flee imminent arrest, Revere and Dawes decided to ride to Concord.

They were joined by a young Concord physician, Dr. Samuel Prescott. The three horsemen had trotted down the road to within three miles of



Concord when they suddenly found themselves surrounded by a number of mounted British officers with pistols drawn, who had concealed themselves in the woods.

Dr. Prescott suddenly dug his spurs into his horse's flanks, and the animal shot straight for a low stone wall. Horse and rider cleared the wall and the horse's hoofbeats disappeared down the Concord road. Revere and Dawes also tried to escape but were unsuccessful. It was up to Dr. Prescott to sound the alarm to Concord.

After 2:00 a.m. just as the British patrol and his prisoners were approaching the outskirts of Lexington, shots were heard. Leading the Americans' horses by their reins, the British galloped off, leaving Revere, Dawes, and four other prisoners standing in the middle of the road.

Captain Parker had assembled the Lexington militia an hour earlier. One of his messengers reported that there was no evidence of any troops on the road. Parker thereupon dismissed his men, ordering them to reassemble when they heard the beat of drums. As

the exuberant militiamen were ordered to fall out, a number of them emptied their loaded muskets by discharging them into the night sky.

Paul Revere reached the parsonage a second time just as John Hancock's chaise was being loaded for his flight. At this point, John Lowell, Hancock's clerk, remembered that he had left Hancock's trunk in the upstairs room at Buckman's Tavern. The trunk was filled with papers that would incriminate other patriots. Lowell and Revere agreed to retrieve it.

Revere and Lowell muscled the heavy trunk down the narrow stairs, across the Green and through the lines of waiting militia and rushed to the waiting chaise to fasten it. As they did so, in the pre-dawn darkness they heard a few shots, then a volley followed by the roar of shouting men. Samuel Adams heard the first sounds of gunfire and exclaimed, "Oh, what a glorious morning is this!"

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Red Dawn at Lexington, by Louis Birnbaum, Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2003



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Stephen Ernest, MNSSAR President

When I was young, annual summer trips to my Nana and Grandpa's house near South Bend, Indiana, were magical times. My brothers and cousins and I would ride on Grandpa's tractor during the day and at dusk run around the huge yard chasing fireflies. And at night, late into the night sometimes, we would listen to Nana tell family history stories.

Having questioned her father's past and found that he had changed his family

name, she delved further and further back. She told us how her father had been in the Spanish-American War. She told us about another ancestor who had fought in the Civil War and had been imprisoned at Andersonville. She told us about our ancestors, the Zellers, whose solid stone house became "Fort Zeller" when the Indians attacked during the French and Indian Wars. And then there were the ancestors who fought in the Revolutionary War: Jonathan Gillam, Johannes Pontius, Daniel Reasor and others. Nana talked about them like they lived down the street.

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M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



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I'm sure many of us have similar memories.

As Compatriots in the Sons of the American Revolution, we can keep our family stories alive by sharing them and never forgetting the struggles of those who came before us. Please join us at our next meeting, the annual Washington Day luncheon on February 22nd, and help us keep the stories alive.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club on Saturday, February 22, 2003. Festivities begin at 12:30 pm and luncheon will be served at 1:00 pm.

MEMBER UPDATE

The MNSSAR welcomes three members who transferred from other states: **Robert Earl Dingley** from SC honors his Revolutionary War ancestor, *Abner Dingley*; **Joel Severinghaus** from GA whose ancestor was *Abraham Bertrand*; and **Brandon Robert Tupa** from the Dakota Society. *Conrad Sly* was his ancestor. **Harvey Tyler Thurston** recently reinstated. His ancestor was *Edward Paine*. Welcome back!

Sadly, we report that four MNSSAR members passed away during 2002:

Mourice Thorp McFarlin, **Morrill Hood Warren**, **David Carleton Gerrish**, and **Daro Eugene Larson**.

MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Paul, Minnesota—The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at the Lexington Restaurant on January 11, 2003. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The pledge to the US flag and the pledge to the SAR was led by Vice President Stephen Ernest because of the absence of the Minnesota President, James Cecil Church, who is vacationing in Spain. Compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave the invocation. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Saint Paul Chapter and the Minneapolis Chapter conducted their business.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, William Leslie DeCoursey, called the meeting to order. Compatriot Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2002. Letters were already sent to the same twelve schools to begin the program for 2003 and infact the name of one recipient has already been received. Five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who regularly fly the flag.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Larry Larson Warren, President. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2002 and the program was

already underway for 2003.

The consensus was that no donations would be made this year. Ordinarily the Minneapolis Chapter donates \$200 to the Minneapolis Public Library for materials from the Revolutionary War period and \$50 to the Longfellow House Restoration Committee. It was noted that the Minneapolis Public Library is moving to a more spacious facility and they will not be acquiring materials for a few years. The Longfellow House is now open to the public and as a result the Longfellow House Restoration Committee has disbanded and is no longer in need of money.

Minnesota Society

The Trustees of the MNSSAR Endowment Trust proposed that the 2002 interest of \$163.86 be donated to the MNSSAR to offset increased cost of the Eagle Scout Program. The proposal passed unanimously.

Donations

The Duluth Public Library will receive \$100. Twenty dollars will be donated for the Taylor grave—the only revolutionary war veteran buried in Minnesota. The NSSAR Library will receive \$100. The Minnesota Genealogical Review, \$21.30; the Preservation Alliance, \$30; and Minnesota Genealogy Society dues of \$28.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Harris was very happy to report the past year's activity with the Eagle

Scout Scholarship Program—reminding members that last year's winner went on to the national competition and won the first place scholarship of \$8,000! 865 Eagle Scouts were mailed letters and applications for this year's contest. To date he has ten entries which will be judged in the next week or two for the Minnesota winner.

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2003. All 18 units in Minnesota were part of the program in 2002.

Membership

John Hallberg Jones reported that membership stood at 119, with 116 members of the MNSSAR and three dual members.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Saint Paul Chapter, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by John Hallberg Jones. A complete list of officers is listed on the back of this newsletter.

Incoming Saint Paul Chapter President, Marvin Stonecipher, presented William DeCoursey with the past president's pin and a certificate of appreciation. The Saint Paul secretary-treasurer then presented the new chapter president with his traveling neck ribbon and jewel.

No further business appearing, the meeting was declared adjourned at 1:28 pm. The newly installed State President, Stephen John Ernest, read the SAR Recessional.



2003 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. The Minnesota Society and Saint Paul Chapter officers changed from 2002. Minneapolis Chapter's officers were nominated for a second term. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Stephen John Ernest
 Vice President Larry Larson Warren
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst Reg.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 Chancellor.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
 Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon.....Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Howard Stewart Kushmar	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Page Gregory Whitmore	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Richard Edward Brink
Robert James Curtiss	Duane Loren Devereaux
Peter Arrott Dixon	The Rev. Wallace E. Gears
William Arthur Harris, Sr.	James Gillespie Hirsh
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
David Leonard Moody, M.D.	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
David Douglas Stevenson	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Michael LaLond West
4 open positions	

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2004 John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Trustee ending January 2005 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2006 Michael Scott Swisher, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in June 2002:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Larry Larson Warren
 Vice President Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
 Timothy Charles Harris
 Larry Allan Lundblad

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 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
 Howard Stewart Kushmar
 Robert Bicknell Mirick
 David Douglas Stevenson
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 Vice President James Fredrick Foster
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain.....Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Stephen John Ernest
 William Leslie DeCoursey

ARE YOUR DUES STILL DUE?

Don't risk being dropped from membership. If you still owe 2003 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday, April 20, 1775

AMERICANS FIRE BACK AT HIS MAJESTY'S TROOPS

Concord, Mass.— Early yesterday morning, as bells pealed in every church steeple sounding the alarm, Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith and nearly six hundred soldiers made up of twenty-one companies of his tallest and best armed grenadiers and infantrymen left Lexington toward Concord to destroy military stores collected there. They had butchered American Minutemen leaving eight dead and nine wounded on Lexington Green just moments before.

The British entered Concord at 8:00 a.m. following the colonial militia which had marched toward them, wheeled around in the middle of the road and led the British back into town, fifes and drums filling the early morning air.

The British halted in front of Wright's Tavern, but the colonial militia continued across the North Bridge a mile from Concord, and climbed up Punkatasset Hill, which overlooked the bridge.

Colonel Smith sent six of his ten light infantry companies toward North Bridge under command of Captain Parsons of the 10th, with orders to hold the bridge with part of his force, and he sent the remainder of his men to find the military goods. The light company of the 43rd was stationed on the bridge under the command of Captain Walter Sloan Laurie.

From their vantage point atop Punkatasset Hill the colonial militia could see smoke. In the highly explosive atmosphere, a meeting was called of the militia company commanders. They proposed to lead their men against the British, rather than take no action while homes were being destroyed.

They marched down the hill, halted, and formed a solid rank across the road, and started forward across the bridge. Several shots cracked out from the front ranks of the British troops on the far side of the bridge. With a piercing yell, the Minutemen fired a volley, killing three British. Seven other men, including four of the eight officers present, were wounded.

Captain Laurie's men broke and ran for the center of town. As Colonel Smith debated the next move, Minutemen were rushing to Concord from every farm within the sound of the shots.

After the British secured horse-drawn chaises for the wounded they began their march back to Boston. As they marched toward Lexington, musket and rifle fire struck the marching men from every possible hiding place along the road. The militia, Minutemen, and alarm companies slipped behind trees and walls and waited for the column to pass. Then they fired their guns and quickly ran into the woods to reload,



and sprinted ahead of the column for another chance.

It was nearly 2:00 p.m. by the time the British were close to Lexington. The heat of the day held at 85° for several hours, as many regulars stumbled or collapsed from fatigue and heat along the highway. The British force was now completely out of ammunition as they reached Lexington. There they were met by Lord Percy's First Brigade, eight hundred strong, which had marched from Boston with two six-pounder field guns drawn by artillery horses.

As more and more militias appeared on the scene they continued to pick off the British as they marched toward Boston.

The sun was setting behind them when the British approached the narrow Charlestown neck. The British returned to Boston by way of Charlestown, which afforded them the support of the navy's guns as they approached the Charles River.

It was a military miracle that Lord Percy brought home fifteen hundred men, many of them wounded, over difficult terrain on a single narrow road surrounded by thousands of marksmen who kept up a continuous fire. Had the Americans been commanded by a unified army the British might never have made it back at all.

The British troops had traveled about fifteen miles since noon. American losses had been heavy, but the figures tell the story: Forty-nine Americans killed compared to seventy-three British soldiers. Thirty-nine Americans wounded against one hundred and seventy-four British casualties. Twenty percent of the British officers and men who had taken part in the day's operation had been killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Red Dawn at Lexington, by Louis Birnbaum, Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar SPRING 2003

NSSAR SPRING TRUSTEES MEETING

The Spring Trustees Meeting was held at Spalding University a few blocks away from the NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday March 1, 2003.

Andy Ambrose, son of Stephen Ambrose, greeted the Trustees conveying his special thanks, on behalf of his father, for receiving the Gold Good Citizenship Medal from the

NSSAR this past September.

He was dressed in attire reminiscent of the Lewis and Clark expedition, which is celebrating its 200th anniversary this year. He related stories of the Ambrose family camping for three months at a time along the Lewis and Clark trail. Every night his father would read chapters from his upcoming book.

continued inside...



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NSSAR Trustee's Meeting

Washington Day Luncheon Topic:
Increased Role of the National
Guard

Now and Then

American Eagle

Minnesota Eagle Scout Wins
National Honors

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SAR Salute



...continued from page 1

Reports were given first by the past president generals, the vice president generals of the 15 districts of the NSSAR, and by the general officers and committees. Following is a sample of some of the reports and resolutions:

Committee Reports

The French Society SAR reported that the trip to France a few weeks earlier was a wonderful excursion. Over eighty SAR members and their ladies attended. They were treated like royalty and allowed places that ordinary citizens are unable to go. The color guard was a wonderful asset giving great exposure to the NSSAR. The trip commemorated the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Alliance following the Battle of Saratoga.

By-Law Amendments

The Trustees were asked to approve two by-law amendments to be voted on at the National Congress in Chicago next July. The first amendment dealt with Bylaw No. 19 Section 6—Annual Dues. Now that the phase-in dates for annual dues have expired they asked that we approve their removal. NSSAR dues shall be paid to the Treasurer General no later than January 1.

Paragraphs two and



three of Bylaw No. 18, Section 1 are to be deleted because they are a duplicate from bylaw 17 where they belong.

Both bylaw amendments passed easily.

Resolutions

A resolution against the Earth Charter which was already passed by the Mid-Atlantic, North Atlantic, and New England Districts and Middle Atlantic States Conference was presented to the trustees. The Earth Charter, among other things, would require the subjugation of the armed forces of the United States to the control of an undefined international authority. The NSSAR opposes this charter and urges that all of the State Societies

and each Chapter also oppose this charter by resolution.

The second resolution endorses the Christian Development Church School for their American Heritage Program and their little patriots.

The third resolution supports the Black Patriots Foundation for recognizing people and events of the Revolutionary War period and supports their efforts for building a memorial on the grounds of the Mall in Washington D.C.

Banquet

The Friday and Saturday evening banquets were the highlight of the Spring Trustees Meeting. On Saturday we were served a mixed green salad with a choice of french or

ranch dressing. Prime rib with roasted mushrooms, a baked potato, green bean, carrot and summer squash medley was served for the main course. For dessert we were treated to a lemon torte served with a dollop of whipped cream decorated with a carnation or a marigold on the side. The dessert was served on a fanciful raspberry-sauce drizzled plate.

The NSSAR barber-shop style singing group entertained us. They sounded much better than their first attempt last fall. The real entertainment was performed by a youth orchestra—high school students from the Youth Music School of Jefferson County, Kentucky. They were fantastic!

During that summer, the American Northern Department, including Wigglesworth's Regiment, harried Burgoyne's forces, causing them to run short of food and supplies. Realizing the desperate nature of his situation, General Burgoyne attacked the Americans at Freeman's Farm in the First Battle of Saratoga on 19 September 1777, and attacked again on 07 October 1777, at Bemis Heights in the Second Battle of Saratoga.

Wigglesworth's Regiment was on the American right flank and participated in the American victory.

Following the Battles of Saratoga, the regiment marched to Valley Forge where Private Daniel Shay, although now in his mid-50s, endured the entire Valley Forge winter of 1777-1778. On 28 June 1778, the regiment participated with Washington's Continental Main Army in the attack on the main British column near

Monmouth Courthouse, New Jersey. On 01 January 1779, Daniel Shay is reported to have been discharged, being "no longer fit for service." The deprivations of military service and the ravages of the Valley Forge winter had taken their toll on this patriot. Nevertheless, records indicate that Patrick Shay was back on the regimental rolls at Providence, Rhode Island, in March and April of 1779.

Patrick Shay's date and place of death are unknown, and there is no record that he applied for a pension or left a will. He was the father of seven children, all born well before the Revolutionary War. His sons, James and Daniel, and his sons-in-laws Elijah Barnes and Whitfield Smith, all served the patriot cause. His son, Captain Daniel Shay, is better known for leading Shay's Rebellion in western Massachusetts in 1786 and 1787.

MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS FIRST RUNNER-UP AT NATIONAL COMPETITION!

Zachary Ivan Smith, of the Central Minnesota Council Boy Scouts of America, represented the MNSSAR in the national competition of the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. The national winners are:

- First Place: Aaron Botts, New Mexico
- First Runner-up: Zachary Smith, Minnesota
- Second Runner-up: Shawn Salamack, Connecticut



Zachary was also the Minnesota winner in 2001. Zachary had a previous engagement and couldn't attend the Washington Day Luncheon this year. He will be awarded his Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy at our Constitution Day Luncheon in September.

CONGRATULATIONS ZACHARY!

SAR AWARD ORGANIZERS SOUGHT

The MNSSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 26 Minneapolis area high schools and 17 ROTC units throughout Minnesota—in addition to the work involved being the MNSSAR 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 MNSSAR. If you are interested please contact John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275. His e-mail address is goodnewsjjones@sprintmail.com.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2003 at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday, May 15, 1775

AMERICANS CAPTURE FORT TICONDEROGA

Fort Ticonderoga, New York.— In the early hours of May 10, 1775, the torpid guard at the main gate was overwhelmed by a wild, yelling rush of men who poured up the bank from the waters. De la Place and his command were bundled off as prisoners of war, and the Royal colors were hauled down.

Fort Ticonderoga was built by a talented French military engineer named de Lotbiniere. The star-shaped fortress of stone, earth and timber was built near the southern end of Lake Champlain. Across the lake the new fortress faced a bluff, and a little to the south Lake George emptied into a channel that flowed through a gorge in Champlain. As a result whoever held the fort controlled the one southward passage out of Champlain, leading toward the Hudson River by way of Lake George, and on to Albany.

Jeffrey Amherst took the base for the British during the French and Indian War in 1759.

Soon after the fighting at Lexington and Concord, Captain Benedict Arnold went before Dr. Joseph Warren and the Committee of Safety with a plan. He proposed to lead a band of Americans to seize Fort Ticonderoga from the British. Dr. Warren's army was less than two weeks old and needed Ticonderoga's cannon, mortars and howitzers. On May 3, the committee named Benedict Arnold a colonel in the new American Army and authorized him to go to western Massachusetts

and recruit four hundred men for his expedition.

The idea was daring but not original. Weeks before the battle of Lexington, Samuel Adams had sent John Brown, a Pittsfield lawyer, to gather information about the condition of the forts since the French and Indian War. He returned to say that if the king's troops provoked a battle, Fort Ticonderoga should be seized at once. In fact, Brown had assigned the task to a group of New Hampshire farmers who were already waging a running battle against New Yorkers in a property dispute. Those men from New Hampshire, led by a giant named Ethan Allen, called themselves the Green Mountain Boys.

After hearing that a band of men had set off to take Ticonderoga, Colonel Arnold resolved to overtake the ragtag upstarts from New Hampshire and make them yield to his official commission.

The Green Mountain Boys were deep in the preparations when Benedict Arnold arrived. Colonel Arnold announced that he had come to lead the charge against Ticonderoga. The Boys laughed. If Ethan Allen was replaced, the Boys would stay home. Amid mockery and shouts, Colonel Arnold was taken to meet Allen. Hours passed, heads cleared, and the Boys learned that their mission would now have two commanders. One of them had an army of two hundred and fifty men, the other had a piece of paper signed in Cambridge; the commission



from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety.

It was nearly daybreak before they had rounded up enough small craft to row eighty-three men across Lake Champlain to the fort's high walls. The Boys crept to the fortress gate. It was open. The sentry on duty was asleep. At the prospect of such an easy victory, the Boys began to whoop, which roused the sentry. He aimed his weapon, thought better of it and ran away. Ticonderoga had been built as a garrison for four hundred men, but during the dozen years of peacetime the British had let it deteriorate and kept it severely undermanned.

A British lieutenant, Jocelyn Feltham, who heard the triumphant shouts ringing over the battlements, jumped from bed, threw open his door and ran into an immense man. Another, very dapper man was standing beside him. "By what authority have you stormed this fort?" Lieutenant Feltham demanded.

"In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress!" roared Ethan Allen.

As they pressed on to the commander's quarters, waving his sword above his head, Allen shouted over and over, "Come out, you old rat!"

Allen assured the captain that the Green Mountain Boys had already disarmed his men. At the news, Captain De la Place held out the hilt of his sword in surrender.

Four days later, fifty men recruited by Benedict Arnold's officers arrived on the scene, and Arnold took formal command of the fort, with its one hundred and twenty iron cannon, two brass cannon, fifty swivels, two 10-inch mortars, ten tons of musket balls, three cartloads of flints, thirty gun carriages, and ten cases of powder.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

American Heritage Book of The American Revolution, Published by American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc., New York.



WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON:

LTC Denis Shields speaks about the increased role of the National Guard

Minnesota SAR President Steven John Ernest opened the annual Washington Day Luncheon noting that this was the 271st anniversary of George Washington's birth. The meeting, which was held jointly with the Minnesota SR, took place at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, compatriot Michael Scott Swisher gave an eloquent invocation.

A leafy-green salad was served topped with a lingonberry vinegrette dressing. A basket of rolls were passed around each table. A hearty helping of baron of beef, mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy and a zucchini-squash medley was served as our main course. We were treated to a chocolate sundae for dessert.

After luncheon President Ernest introduced William McLaughlin, President of the Minnesota SR, and Col. William H. Lees, Vice President General of the North Central District NSSAR, who extended greetings to the MNSSAR.

John Hallberg Jones,



LTC Denis Shields, Public Affairs Officer, Minnesota Department of Military Affairs for the Minnesota Army National Guard and Steven Ernest, MNSSAR President

Secretary/Treasurer of the MNSSAR, presented our newly installed President with his neck ribbon and jewel. Robert Louis Knutson, Mark Dean LaGrange, III and Arthur Louis Finnell celebrated 25 years of membership and were presented with a certificate and a 25-year pin.

President Ernest introduced our speaker, LTC Denis Shields, Public Affairs Officer, Minnesota Department of Military Affairs for the Minnesota National Guard, whose topic was entitled, *The Increased Role of the National Guard in the U.S. Military and Local Communities*.

The National Guard considers 1636, when the first Colonial Militia was

established by the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the year of its inception. The Minnesota National Guard takes an oath to support and defend the Constitution of Minnesota and of the United States of America. This dual status has its roots in the U.S. Constitution. The National Guard serves both its State of origin and the Federal Government.

LTC Shields explained that during Vietnam the Reserves and the National Guard were not used extensively—creating a war that was fought by draftees and not by local volunteers. Afterwards the military reorganized so that the Reserves and National Guard were much

more involved on Federal active duty.

Operation Enduring Freedom

Since the terrorist acts the National Guard has been on increased duty. By noon of 9/11, twin F-16 fighter jets were flying over the twin cities. Soldiers of the Minnesota Army National Guard were soon on duty at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. The Minnesota Air National Guard have flown combat air patrols over Washington, DC and Crawford, Texas. They have carried out missions transporting troops of the 101st Airborne Division in Kuwait and Afghanistan. The Civil Support Team are the first responders for

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accessing nuclear, biological and chemical warfare and/or accidents.

Future Operations

National Guard men and women will put their lives on hold for as much as a year to support our freedom. Their employers have supported their commitments remarkably.

The Minnesota National Guard will be part of the peacekeeping force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It will be the largest deployment of the Minnesota National Guard since World War II. Construction specialists from Camp Ripley will be sent overseas to improve military bases and airports.

Community Service

The Minnesota National Guard requires community service involvement by its men and women. This is all done in addition to maintaining its commitment to Minnesota—helping with tornado and flood relief. We should be proud of these marvelous men and women and their sacrifices the past eighteen months.

President Ernest presented LTC Denis Shields with a certificate of appreciation. William McLaughlin, President of the Minnesota SR, presented Shields with a book entitled, *Standards and Colors of the American Revolution*.

NOW & THEN

Ronald E. McRoberts, a native of San Francisco, is currently on the Board of Managers of the MNSSAR. He joined the Minnesota Society five years ago to participate in an organization that commemorates and preserves the military legacy of the United States and the commitment and sacrifices of our colonial patriot ancestors. He is also a member of the Mayflower Descendants.

Ronald served two years with the 25th Infantry Division, United States Army and three years in the United States Reserve. Ronald has served 25 years in the 47th and 34th Infantry Divisions, Minnesota Army National Guard and retired with the rank of Colonel, Field Artillery.

Ronald and his wife, Nancy have three boys—James, Michael, and Sean, and a daughter Erin. They have two grandchildren. He met Nancy when a cousin introduced them at a single adults Bible study.

Ronald has a PhD from the University of

Minnesota. He previously taught college and university mathematics at the University of Minnesota, Morris and Northwestern College in St. Paul.

He currently is the Adjunct Professor for the Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota and does research for the forest inventory program of the USDA, Forest Service. The research focuses on the application and development of mathematical and statistical techniques to produce more efficient, timely, and precise estimates of the forest resources in eleven Midwestern states. The particular focus is on the development of mathematical models to predict forest growth and survival and to map forest resources using satellite imagery. He has enjoyed his job for the past 25 years.

His Revolutionary War ancestor is Patrick Shay, a patriot of Anglo-Irish or Irish descent. He was over 50 years of age and living in Sherborn, Massachusetts, at the time of the Concord

and Lexington alarm. On 29 April 1775, he enlisted as a private in Jonathan Brewer's Regiment, only a few days after its authorization. He participated in the Battle of Bunker (Breed's) Hill on 17 June 1775, was on the regimental roll at Prospect Hill (Mt. Pisgah) to which the Americans withdrew following the battle, and participated in the Siege of Boston.

In the summer of 1776, the regiment, now under the command of Colonel Edward Wigglesworth, was assigned to Fort Ticonderoga from where it participated in the combined naval-land battles on Lake Champlain in October, 1776. Following the British retreat back to Canada, the regiment returned to Fort Ticonderoga where Patrick Shay was on the roll in November, 1776. In June, 1777, British General Burgoyne again set out from Canada, rapidly took possession of the Lake Champlain fortresses, and pushed into the Connecticut River Valley.

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THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SUMMER 2003

NSSAR 113TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

Tim Harris, National Trustee for MN

July 5-9, 2003 Chicago, IL— The 113th Congress of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Hyatt Regency on the Riverwalk. The luxury hotel is situated on the grounds of historic Fort Dearborn.

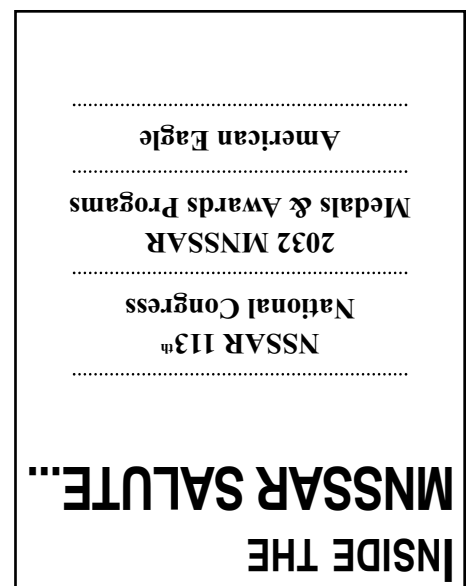
The Saturday evening reception was elegant. Two lines formed at

both ends of a long table for an assortment of cheeses and crackers. In the center was an ornate ice sculpture of two minutemen facing SAR letters. Waiters brought out tray after tray of scrumptious hors-d'oeuvres. All the while two strolling musicians serenaded us with Spanish style guitar music.

The National Congress convened

Monday morning. The US Navy Band greeted us with music. We started with a presentation informing us of the progress made on the Center for Advancing America's Heritage — the new NSSAR Library. 3.8 million dollars has been raised to date. Many in attendance pledged additional donations during the congress.

continued inside...



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Following is a sample of the more important proceedings and resolutions:

By-Law Amendments

The amendments that were approved at the Spring Trustee's meeting were debated. The first amendment dealt with Bylaw No. 19 Section 6—Annual Dues. Now that the phase-in dates for annual dues have expired they asked that we approve their removal. NSSAR dues shall be paid to the Treasurer General no later than January 1.

Paragraphs two and three of Bylaw No. 18, Section 1 are to be deleted because they are a duplicate of bylaw 17 where they belong.

Both bylaw amendments passed easily.

A third bylaw proposal was much more contentious. It dealt with allowing individual compatriots considering running for a national society office to commence ten days following the adjournment of the Annual Congress — as opposed to after the Fall Trustees Meeting. A proposal to table the motion did not prevail. After much discussion the delegates voted against the amendment. The reason was to allow the Bylaws Committee more time to study and debate the proposal.



Resolutions

Seven resolutions were presented and passed by the National Congress. The first resolution urges the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services to include written questions in its citizenship test on our common civic culture, the founding of our country and our history, the ability to communicate in the English language, and that the citizenship test include written questions concerning the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizenship.

A second and third resolution directs the NSSAR to convey to President George W. Bush and to Prime Minister Tony Blair the affection, admiration, and gratitude that they have served so well and wish them Godspeed.

Another resolution urges the Congress of the

United States to pass legislation that would establish English as the official language of this Nation. Another urges Congress to pass legislation authorizing the National Park Service to establish a program to observe the 225th anniversary of the American Revolution.

Following additional business, the trustees were installed on Wednesday morning.

Banquets

The highlight of the NSSAR Congress is, of course, the Tuesday and Wednesday evening banquets. On Tuesday we were served a leafy green salad garnished with blue cheese, pecans, pear spears served with vinaigrette dressing. The main course consisted of salmon served with hollandaise sauce, pepper corn steak with gravy, a wedge of layered

scalloped potatoes, as well as a vegetable medley. For dessert we were treated to an elegant strawberry mouse served on a chocolate lined wafer bowl with strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries garnished with white and dark chocolate slivers served on a plate drizzled with strawberry sauce.

During dinner we were entertained by the Mick Archer Trio who played jazz versions of pop standards. After dinner Compatriot Frank Gibson (TXSSAR) played his guitar and sang an assortment of "American Heroes" folk songs.

The new slate of national officers were installed during the Wednesday evening banquet. The entree was filet mignon and shrimp.



2002 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



Flag Certificates

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

- Tony Andersen Group, St. Paul
- Holiday Truck & Equip., New Brighton
- Lee Collins, LTD, New Brighton
- Marudas Print Services, New Brighton
- Superior Flooring, New Brighton

ROTC Awards

Eighteen young men from ROTC units located throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the Minnesota SAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis and twelve Saint Paul area high schools this year. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service*, and an appreciation of *Patriotism*.

New MNSSAR Members:

John Lansing Callaghan
Scott Arthur Grosscup
Nathan Michael West
Andrew Walter Braun
Randall Roger Nelson

NOW & THEN

James Frederick Foster is one of the newest members of the MNSSAR having become a member last November. He joined because he feels that it is important we remember our heritage.

Jim is a native of Albert Lea, Minnesota. He and his wife Donna currently live in Red Wing. They have two grown sons, Sidney and Fred, and four grandchildren.

James is semi-retired having worked in manufacturing, engineering and machining for over 38 years. He has recently been doing some consulting.

James Foster joined the MNSSAR to honor his ancestor, Jedediah Wellman. He is listed on the muster roll of Keene, New Hampshire of 1773. He was one of 117 officers and men of the Foot Company, 6th Regiment NH Militia. Records indicate that some members of the Foot Company were

among reinforcements summoned to Lexington and Concord. They also participated in the Battle of Bennington.

Jedediah Wellman was one of the signers of a resolution signed by the people of the town of Keene which reads in part:

"We the Subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risk of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets and Armies against the United American COLONIES."

In November 1776 Jedediah Wellman was involved in setting up houses in Keene for inoculating citizens against small pox, in addition to being a Surveyor of Highways.

James Foster is currently working on four supplementals from the Foster, Hudson, Wheelock and Cleaveland families.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 21, 2002. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, December 17, 1774

FORT WILLIAM AND MARY SACKED

Portsmouth Committee of Correspondence seize and safeguard military provisions

Newcastle, NH— For the second time in less than forty-eight hours, a British military installation, Fort William and Mary, had been captured and sacked by colonial forces. Although the raiders made no attempt to permanently occupy the garrison and allowed seventy heavy cannon to remain in the fort, they worked throughout the cold winter night of December 15/16, tramping through frigid tide-water to load their plunder onto tidewater river boats known as gundalows.

The night's work wasn't completed until eight or nine o'clock yesterday morning, by which time Colonel Nathaniel Folsom had arrived from Exeter with a large contingent of heavily armed infantry and calvary. Folsom stationed his troops as a guard, waiting for the tide to change. At the turn of the tide, the captured cannon and other stores were, with difficulty, shuttled up the ice-choked Piscataqua River for safekeeping in other towns.

Fort William and Mary, formerly known as "the Castle," is a sorry, old low-walled stone structure, having been erected on Great (Newcastle) Island in the early 1600s to protect the approach to Portsmouth Harbor.

On December 13, Paul Revere was dispatched from Boston with a letter from William Cooper of that city to Samuel Cutts of the Portsmouth Committee of

Correspondence. Revere carried word that a royal order had been issued prohibiting the export of gunpowder to the colonies; that military provisions in Rhode Island had been moved inland by colonists for safekeeping; and that the British government intended to reinforce the tiny garrison at Fort William and Mary with soldiers of the regular army, or to remove the fort's powder.

At noon on December 14, members of the Portsmouth Committee marched through the streets, led by fifes and drums, loudly proclaiming their plan to attack Fort William and Mary. Within twenty-four hours of Paul Revere's message, the Portsmouth Committee had openly, unlawfully and with utter disregard for British authority, gathered over four hundred citizens of Portsmouth, Newcastle, Rye and Kittery, Maine to join in an armed attack of the British fort.

Having been warned of a potential conflict, Captain Cochran posted his small contingent of British soldiers to defend the fort. No sooner had he done so than the area outside the fort was teeming with men.

Captain Cochran admitted two rebel leaders to state their business. Once inside, John Langdon and Captain Robert White informed Cochran that they were going to carry off all of the gunpowder in the maga-

zine. Cochran replied that the waiting mob would have to take the powder by force and ordered Langdon and White out of the installation.

Before Cochran had time to catch his breath, a signal was given to the colonials to storm the fort. Musket fire and three cannon hurling four-pound shot were directed at the American ranks. Colonists rushed toward the walls just as they saw the King's soldiers lighting the matches of their cannon, thereby slipping under the guns. As the soldiers sought to reload, the colonists pressed forward. "Before we could fire again" Cochran reported, "we were stormed on all quarters..."

Cochran was quickly confined in the fort's guardhouse and the door to the powderhouse was broken down with a crow bar. The triumphant Americans seized at least five kegs of bullets, several thousand gun flints and all but one of the King's barrels of powder. The booty was swiftly loaded into gundalows and transported for hiding in various inland communities. Captain Cochran and his men were released after about one and-one-half hours of confinement.

After returning from the raid, the rebel leaders called upon neighboring towns to assist in planning a second attack on Fort William and Mary. Major John Sullivan and Colonel Nathaniel Folsom, both delegates of the Continental Congress just two months before, offered their assistance.

Hundreds of men—perhaps closer to 1,000—descended on Fort William and Mary at about ten o'clock p.m. on December 15. Sullivan approached the gate and was allowed to speak with Cochran. Sullivan explained that his men would be seizing "all the Province stores" at the fort.

Cochran showed a committee of three rebels what stores might possibly be put there by the province... which consisted of only forty or fifty old useless muskets and some considerable small stores of no value. Cochran then informed them that all the rest belonged to the King and warned them on their peril not to touch them.

Cochran's faith in American respect for the King's property was misplaced. In what appears to have been an orderly, triumphant second invasion of the fort, the companies waiting outside simply overran the installation and seized all of the small arms, bayonets, cartridge boxes, assorted cannon shot, and other ordinance stores that they could locate.

In spite of Cochran's persistent warnings, they also seized sixteen of the King's prized cannon (fifteen four-pounders and a nine-pounder), ten carriages, the useless muskets which Cochran had previously pointed out, and forty-two serviceable muskets with shot.

Source: Fort Constitution, by Thomas F. Kehr, President NHSSAR, <http://www.sar.org/nhssar/essays/FortConstitution.htm>

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THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2003



NSSAR FALL TRUSTEES MEETING

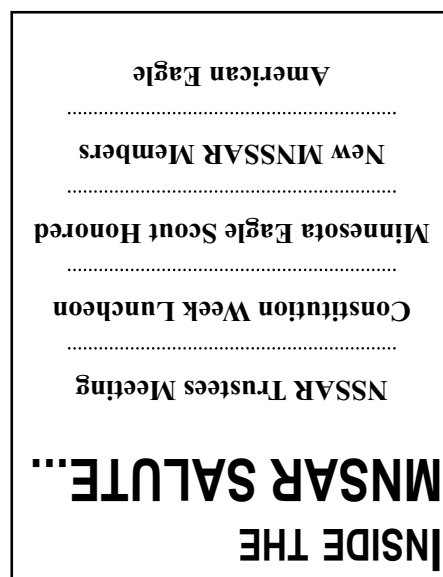
Louisville, Kentucky — The Fall Trustees Meeting was held at Memorial Auditorium across the street from NSSAR headquarters on Saturday, September 27, 2003. We opened with the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge to the SAR and an invocation.

The past president's messages followed the presentation of gifts to NSSAR. We heard reports from the

general officers and the vice president generals of the fifteen districts of the NSSAR.

There were no resolutions or by-law amendments to consider. The emphasis of this years Trustee Meeting was the Center for Advancement of America's Heritage. As Past President General Larry McClanahan pointed out, it is more than just a

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library. It is an edifice to educate Americans, especially children, the history of the revolutionary period. It will hold books, artifacts, and memorabilia. The NSSAR expects it to be the foremost research center for the Revolutionary War era in the nation.

A decision has been made to limit the space for microfilm research and use the expanded space for an IT manager and server. Fiber optic cables will be funneled to the tables through the floor for internet access at each station. Additional space will be available for a climate controlled area. We will still have a larger microfilm research area than we have at the present time.

The current building will house a Revolutionary War era museum.

The National Society's new executive director, Jim Randall, has taken over the task of fund raising and it will be national in scope. He says that, after the new facility is completed, there is no reason we can't boast having 100,000 members.

The Treasurer General, Henry McCarl, stated that one-third of the funds for our new building will come from outside foundations and two-thirds from our membership. We currently have \$800,000 in the



The Youth Performing Arts School Choir of Jefferson County entertained us thoroughly at the Saturday evening banquet.

bank and we need three million dollars to complete the project. If every member donates just one hundred dollars we will garner 2.7 million dollars. The NSSAR should endeavor to reach that goal in the next five months. Go to www.sar.org to download a Presentation of Gift form.

Bids for construction will be targeted around November first. They will be presented to the Trustee's at the Spring Trustees Meeting.

The Investment Committee reported that they considered a list of potential investment managers. The Pittsburgh Bank was

selected with the expectation that the NSSAR will grow in membership and money. Past President General Howard Horne, Jr. noted that the NSSAR has turned a corner. We will no longer do business as a 'mom and pop' operation.

The highlight of the entire weekend were the Friday and Saturday evening banquets. On Saturday we were served a mixed green salad with a choice of ranch or oil and vinegarette dressing. The main course consisted of a generous portion of prime rib served with horse radish sauce, a baked potato with sour cream, veg-

etable medley of green beans, yellow and green zucchini. For dessert we were treated to cheese cake drizzled with raspberry sauce and served with a dollop of whipped cream on the side. A mint sprig garnish created a fine presentation.

Throughout dinner we were entertained by piano accompaniment of patriotic and regional songs.

After dinner the Youth Performing Arts School Choir of Jefferson County entertained us. They were fabulous!



Our Eagle Scout Committee Chairman, Tim Harris, was very glad to present Zachary Iven Smith of the Central Minnesota BSA Council his spreading wings eagle trophy for being the Minnesota winner. And, for being the first runner-up in the NSSAR competition, a check for his \$4,000 scholarship award. (See the Spring 2003 MNSSAR newsletter.) Zachary was unable to attend the annual Constitution Luncheon because he is attending college at Chaminade University of Honolulu. His parents John and Linda Smith accepted the awards on his behalf.

THE COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP OF JOHN ADAMS

by Zachary I. Smith

John Adams, the second president of the United States of America, devoted his life to serving a cause greater than himself. He devoted his life to creating and serving the United States of America.

Many believe that John Adams is the unsung hero of the American Revolution. Adams's contribution to the birth of the United States of America is often overlooked. He was often slighted, insulted, criticized, and has therefore been discredited in American history simply because he stood up and spoke for what he believed in and what he thought was best for the American people. He stood up for the concepts and ideals that America stood for, the America that he helped create. John

Adams was a man whose loyalties lay toward the people of his country rather than to any point of view or political party.

During the Revolutionary War he served diplomatic roles in France and Holland and helped to create a treaty of peace. Adams, along with a committee of Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston, wrote and created the Declaration of Independence. From 1785 to 1788 he was a minister to the Court of St. James, and returned to be elected as the Vice President of the United States, serving under George Washington for two terms.

Serving as Vice President provided some frustrating times for Adams,

who was unsatisfied about his role as Vice President. This is evident in his statement to his wife, Abigail Adams, when he said, "My country has in its wisdom contrived for me the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived."

When John Adams became President, he faced and handled many of this nation's most difficult encounters. He handled those problems in a way that benefited the people of his country. John Adams was a president of and for the people. He was the only one of our country's founding fathers never to own any slaves.

As our country approaches times that threaten our liberties and

freedom, it is important that we remember those important people like John Adams who worked so hard to make this country as great as it is. The Declaration of Independence states, "Resolved, That these United States are, and, of right, ought to be, free and independent States." Adams helped to make our country what it is today. It is only right that we should believe in America the way that he did. We must keep fighting the war that Adams started to keep the concepts and ideals that formed our great nation.

John Adams and his contribution to the birth of America are an inspiration to me. He believed in a cause greater than himself, the cause of creating a free nation. His dedication to America and to the people of America is inexplicable. It is the work of a true leader and a patriot. It is people like John Adams who make me proud to be a son of the American Revolution.*

*During the course of my genealogy study I learned that my ancestor, Eleazor Stockwell, served in the Revolutionary War.

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the French fleet and thirty-two hundred fresh troops. Instead of coming as far north as New York, however, de Grasse was sailing for Chesapeake Bay, where he could stay only until the middle of October.

On September 5, British Admiral Graves came in sight of the Chesapeake capes and planned to enter the channel. They were surprised to see masts of ships anchored in the bay. A naval battle ensued with deadly results on both sides. The British ships were the worse damaged. Admiral Graves had no course left except to sail back to New York for repairs.

Cornwallis had 7,000 troops trapped by over 15,000 French and American troops. After a lengthy siege Cornwallis, with little food and no supplies, surrendered. As fate would have it, he surrendered on the very day Admiral Graves left New York to Cornwallis' rescue.

Historians have asserted that it was one of the great achievements of warfare in world history. Our speaker ended his oration by stating that de Grasse was the right man, at the right place at the right time!

NEW MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Four new members were awarded a certificate and their rosette. From left to right are: Rehn Smith, Donald Manion, Jacob Beckel, and Paul Wallace.

New MNSSAR Member	Patriot Ancestor
Sean Edward McRoberts	Elijah Barnes, Sr.
Douglas James Caywood.....	John Stewart
Paul Stanley Wallace	John Wallace
Paul Eugene Wallace, II.....	John Wallace
Jacob Kelley Beckel	Gen. Robert Irwin
Donald Eugene Manion	John Thwing
Mark Dean LaGrange, IV	Isaac de La Grange, II

In addition, there were the following approved supplemental applications:

Ronald Edward McRoberts	Moses Barnett and Patrick Shay
Douglas James Caywood.....	George Hancock
James Fredrick Foster	John Hudson, Sr. and John Hudson, Jr.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual General Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul on Saturday, January 11, 2004. The meeting begins at 11 AM. Luncheon (from the menu) will be served at noon. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



ANNUAL CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON:

RADM J. Robert Lunney, General President of the General Society
Sons of the Revolution is Keynote Speaker

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 20, 2003. Minnesota SR President, William McLaughlin opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. MNSSAR President Stephen Ernest recited the SAR Pledge. Our Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones gave a very eloquent invocation.

We were offered a choice of three entrees: Chicken Vesuvio, a full half roasted chicken; Braised Short Ribs served with mashed potatoes; or Grilled Salmon served with asparagus. For desert we were treated to a lemon parfait, which had a pecan base, a layer of custard, and a layer of lemon filling served with a dollop of whipped cream and sprinkled with chopped walnuts.

Before luncheon the Minnesota Sons of the Revolution conducted their business. Following that John Hallberg Jones, our Secretary-Treasurer, presented certificates and rosettes to four new members of the MNSSAR. He also awarded supplemental

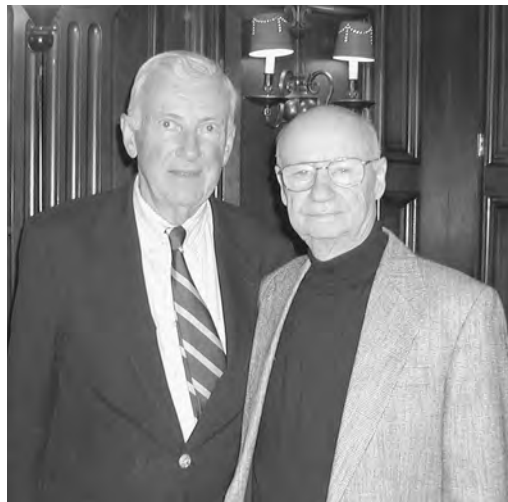
certificates to three other members.

Michael Scott Swisher was honored to receive a 25-year membership pin and certificate.

Tim Harris was asked to report highlights of the NSSAR Congress held in Chicago, Illinois.

He noted the elegance of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, where the congress was held. He told of the opening reception and the beautiful ice sculpture. He attended the Trustees Meeting and the National Congress which took place Monday through Wednesday. John Jones noted the biggest change to the by-law amendments dealt with fee increases. Details of the congress are available in the Summer 2003 issue of the MNSSAR newsletter.

Michael Swisher, Vice President of the Minnesota SR introduced today's speaker, Rear Admiral J. Robert Lunney, General President of the General Society of the Sons of the



*RADM J. Robert Lunney,
General President of the
General Society of the
Sons of the Revolution
and William McLaughlin,
President of Minnesota
SR*

Revolution.

Lunney stated that the SR is one of seventeen societies that support the Yorktown Celebration held annually on October 19. He noted that he was asked to be the keynote speaker of that event in 2002. Being a retired admiral, he researched and spoke about Francois-Joseph-Paul Comte de Grasse, Admiral of the French Fleet.

He asked, why did Lord Cornwallis, commander of the British army, allow himself to be trapped on such a tiny peninsula? Actually, he was right where he wanted to be—near a seaport where he could be supplied by the Royal Navy.

Washington wanted desperately to attack New York, where the British were headquartered since the Battle of Long Island and Brooklyn in 1776. The French General, Rochambeau had 6,000 to 7,000 troops bottled up by the Royal Navy in Newport, Rhode Island. In July, 1781 Rochambeau and Washington met in White Plains, NY to plan a joint attack. In mid-August, Washington received news that his most fervent dream was about to come true, but with one significant change. Admiral de Grasse was on his way from the West Indies with more than thirty ships of

continued on page 4...

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday, July 3, 1775

WASHINGTON TAKES COMMAND



Cambridge, Mass.— At precisely 10:00 this morning a low throbbing of drums echoed from the town square, followed by the shrill sounds of the fifes. The pounding of the drums grew louder and more insistent, and a formation of musicians swung smartly on the Common and marched in front of the reviewing stand in a thunderous tornado of sound.

The reviewing post had been established at the base of an enormous elm tree. General Artemas Ward, astride his horse, faced the massed regiments from under the shade of the tree. Ranged behind him were Generals Putnam, Greene, Thomas, Sullivan, Heath, and Spencer. Behind the mounted officers hundreds of spectators, including members of the Provincial Congress dressed in their finest, formed a background of vivid colors.

Moving rhythmically, three splendidly mounted general officers dressed in blue rode slowly across the sunlight and shadows of the Common

toward the reviewing party. A squadron of mounted dragoons with drawn sabers clattered along behind them. The three officers drew abreast of Ward and his officers and exchanged salutes. Washington expertly wheeled his horse

alongside Ward as his two companions, Major General Charles Lee and Brigadier General Horatio Gates, joined the other generals.

Six regiments from the various wings of the army had been collected at dawn to witness Washington's assumption of command and to be reviewed by their new commander-in-chief. Three regiments were from Massachusetts; New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island had each furnished one. The long ranks reached from one end of Cambridge Common to the other, and colonels and their staffs sat their mounts in front of the troops.

On May 10, the second Continental Congress convened, this time in Pennsylvania's State House. Peyton Randolph had been reelected president of the Congress but was called back to Virginia to preside over the Burgesses. Thomas Jefferson had ridden to Philadelphia to take Randolph's place in the Virginia delegation, but that still left the

president's chair open. In a mild assertion of their independent spirit the delegates chose John Hancock.

George Washington also attended the Congress, wearing his blue and buff colonel's uniform of the Virginia militia.

John Adams offered the Congress a comprehensive military plan. He recommended that each colony seize all British officials and hold them—humanly and generously—as hostage for Boston's patriots. Each colony should then set up its own new government, and offer to negotiate peace terms with Britain. Congress should consider the volunteers in Cambridge as a Continental Army, appoint a commanding general for them and underwrite their pay and costs.

John Dickenson, the delegate from Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution asking the king to open negotiations that would heal the breach. The Pennsylvanians had prevailed, and a conciliatory resolution had been sent to London. But the army at Cambridge, now six weeks old, remained a stubborn reality that the delegates in Philadelphia could no longer ignore. On June 7, the Congress advised Massachusetts to set up a temporary government.

A week later when the session convened, John Adams took the floor and reminded the Congress of the dangers in

further delay. At any moment, the British Army might take advantage of the disarray in Cambridge and march out of Boston, spreading havoc across the countryside. Adams concluded with a motion that the Congress adopt the army at Cambridge and appoint a general for it. This was not the proper time to nominate that commander, Adams continued, since it might be a difficult choice. But he wouldn't hesitate to declare that he had one gentleman in mind for that vital position. He was a gentleman from Virginia, a gentleman whose skill and experience as an officer, whose independent fortune, great talents and excellent reputation would be approved by all America and unite the colonies better than any other person in the country.

Virginia was the largest and most powerful colony in America, and Washington was her foremost military man. This made the choice of him almost essential from Adams's point of view, for with Washington would come the support of Virginia, and with Virginia would come the rest of the colonies. The war would be viewed as a colonial war rather than a New England uprising.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Red Dawn at Lexington, by Louis Birnbaum, Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2004



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

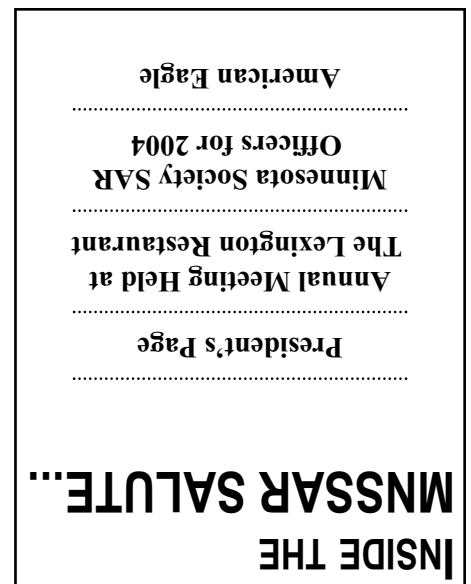
Stephen Ernest, MNSSAR President

I was recently given a copy of George Washington's Farewell Address. In it he extols the virtues of American unity and patriotism and morality. He also warns of the dangers of regionalism, partisan politics, permanent foreign alliances and an overly powerful military establishment. I don't remember ever reading this address in school, and was struck by how relevant Washington's comments are even to our national life of

today. I don't know how many teachers have their students read the Farewell Address these days, but I would recommend it.

At our recent state society meeting in St. Paul discussions turned to the subject of the teaching of patriotism to the youth of today. The general consensus was that there is not enough of it. In Minnesota, the SAR conducts several activities to encourage patriotism. Among these are the Good Citizenship medals we give out in high schools and, perhaps our most successful program, the Eagle Scout Essay Contest. Nationally,

continued inside...



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Paul, Minnesota—The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at the Lexington Restaurant on January 10, 2004.

Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The formalities of the day were started by Vice President Larry Larson Warren, due to the late arrival of Stephen John Ernest, President of the Minnesota Society. Compatriot Warren led the Pledge to the US flag; Compatriot Jones read the Pledge to the SAR and offered the invocation. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Saint Paul Chapter and the Minneapolis Chapter conducted their business.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter Vice President, James Fredrick Foster, called the meeting to order. The meeting was handed over to President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher soon after he arrived. Compatriot Timothy Harris reported that ten of the twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2003. Letters were already sent to the same twelve schools to begin the program for 2004 and in fact the name of one recipient has already been received. Five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who regularly fly the flag.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter

was called to order by Larry Larson Warren, President. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 25 area high schools in 2003. In 2004 the Minneapolis Chapter will add a unit of Sea Cadets to the program.

The consensus was that no donations would be made this year. The Longfellow House Restoration Group has completed its task and disbanded, and the Minneapolis Public Library is building a new facility and will not be acquiring new materials for a couple of years. It was noted that the subscription to the NSSAR Magazine for the Minneapolis Public Library was renewed for a period of three years in August 2003 ending August 2006.

Minnesota Society

The Trustees of the MNSSAR Endowment Trust proposed that the 2003 interest of \$320.15 be donated to the MNSSAR to offset the cost of the Eagle Scout Program. The proposal was adopted.

Donations

The Duluth Public Library will receive \$100. Twenty dollars will be donated for the Taylor grave—the only revolutionary war veteran buried in Minnesota. The NSSAR Library will receive \$100. This year the money is not designated for microfilm as it has been in the past. It was decided that the new library may use the internet census records or a CD-ROM format. The donation is designated for the building fund

instead. The Minnesota Genealogical Review will receive \$24.30; the Preservation Alliance, \$30; and Minnesota Genealogy Society dues of \$30. The MNSSAR Endowment Trust will receive \$400.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Harris was very happy to report the past year's activity with the Eagle Scout Scholarship Program—reminding members that last year's winner went on to the national competition and won the second place scholarship of \$4,000! In 2002 the Minnesota winner won first place in the national competition. 947 Eagle Scouts were mailed letters and applications for this year's contest. To date he has eighteen entries which will be judged in the next week or two for the Minnesota winner.

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2004. All 18 units in Minnesota were part of the program in 2003.

Upon motion passed, the Minnesota Society is hereby authorized to present up to five Flag Certificates this year. Those requesting same should contact Compatriot Jones.

Membership

John Hallberg Jones presented Sean McRoberts a member certificate and rosette. Sean's father, Robert, accepted them on his sons behalf. Compatriot Jones reported that membership stood at 119, with 116 members of the MNSSAR and three dual members.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Saint Paul Chapter, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by John Hallberg Jones.

After lunch the meeting was declared adjourned at 1:00 pm. Compatriot Jones read the SAR Recessional.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club on Saturday, February 21, 2004. Festivities begin at 12:30 pm and luncheon will be served at 1:00 pm.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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the SAR offers more ways to encourage patriotism in youth, such as the Rumbaugh Oration Contest and the Knight Essay Contest. While Minnesota has not participated in these recently, we do get inquiries about them by e-mail and postal mail. There are interested youth in Minnesota.

We certainly can offer these contests in Minnesota. Compatriots, if you are interested in spending some of your time to bring these programs to our state, I would encourage you. I assure you it would be time well spent.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



2004 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. The Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapter's officers were nominated for a second term. The Minnesota Society officers were nominated for a second term with only a few changes. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Stephen John Ernest
 Vice President Larry Larson Warren
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst Reg.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 Chancellor.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
 Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Howard Stewart Kushmar	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Page Gregory Whitmore	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Richard Edward Brink
Robert James Curtiss	Duane Loren Devereaux
Peter Arrott Dixon	The Rev. Wallace E. Gears
William Arthur Harris, Sr.	James Gillespie Hirsh
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	David Douglas Stevenson
Marvin Eugene Stonecipher	Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Michael LaLond West	

5 open positions

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2005 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2006 Michael Scott Swisher, PP
 Trustee ending January 2007 John Hallberg Jones, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in June 2004:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Larry Larson Warren
 Vice President Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
 Timothy Charles Harris
 Larry Allan Lundblad

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
 Howard Stewart Kushmar
 Robert Bicknell Mirick
 David Douglas Stevenson
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 Vice President James Fredrick Foster
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Stephen John Ernest
 William Leslie DeCoursey

ARE YOUR DUES STILL DUE?

As of January 10, 2004 only eight members still owe 2004 dues. Don't risk being dropped from membership. If you still owe 2004 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, November 3, 1775



BENJAMIN CHURCH CONVICTED OF SPYING!

Cambridge, Mass.— The court martial of Patriot Benjamin Church took place on Friday October 27, before the legislative body of the Massachusetts General Court. After his letter to Washington was read, he made a long, impassioned speech in his own defense, before hundreds of his old friends and companions. But his former associates listened impassively during the painful ordeal, and when they voted yesterday, it was clear that few had been impressed by his appeal. After several hours of deliberation, the council agreed unanimously that Church was guilty of having carried on a criminal correspondence.

During August Godfrey Wainwood, who owns a bakery in Newport, Rhode Island, was visited by a former prostitute with whom he had once lived. About to be married, he was greatly disturbed by her sudden appearance, but she told him she now lived in Cambridge and sought only a favor for “old times sake.” She had a letter addressed to a British major on General Gage’s staff and asked Wainwood to deliver it to friends who would then forward it to the major. When Wainwood asked her about the letter’s contents, she told him that she did not know, but that it was from the man with whom she was living in Cambridge and was addressed to a friend of his, a Major Kane of the British army in Boston. Anxious to get her out of his shop and Newport, he assured her that he would take

care of the matter and hurried her on her way back to Cambridge.

Though certain that the letter involved some form of treason, Wainwood did nothing about it for three weeks. When it continued to prey upon his mind, he carried it to Adam Maxwell, a school-teacher friend. Maxwell broke open the letter and found three pages of strange, closely written characters, obviously in code. Instead of taking it to the local American military authorities, the two men put the letter away and tried to forget about it. They were afraid to become involved in what was possibly the work of a traitorous or demented woman.

Several weeks later, Wainwood received a letter from his former mistress which convinced him that the coded letter was an important message from a spy in Cambridge to the British army in Boston. Wainwood wondered how she could have known that the letter had failed to reach an officer on General Gage’s staff in Boston. He took the letter back to Maxwell, who advised him to contact Henry Ward, the patriot secretary of Rhode Island, who instructed them to take it to Cambridge.

Wainwood soon found himself being brought before the commander-in-chief by General Nathaniel Green. After reading the various papers, Washington questioned Wainwood about his relationship with the young woman. Washington instituted a general search and issued orders for her arrest. Several days later

General Putnam hurried her into Washington’s study.

The interrogation lasted over thirty hours. The woman denied everything despite a warning that her refusal to cooperate might take her to the gallows. Finally she broke down and told her story. She was being kept by Dr. Benjamin Church, the newly appointed surgeon general of the American Army, and now she was pregnant by him. Dr. Church had written the coded letter.

Church was promptly arrested, and under questioning, he stated that he had written the letter to Major Kane, a friend who lived in Boston. However, he claimed that he wrote the letter purposely exaggerating the number of American troops in order to discourage the British from attacking the American lines. Washington turned over several copies of the letter to Elbridge Gerry, Reverend Samuel West, and Colonel Elisha Porter, three men familiar with deciphering. On October third Washington received two separate but identical versions of the deciphered message: the note was filled with valuable military data. Its last line read, “Make use of every precaution or I perish.”

Born in Massachusetts around 1710, Dr. Benjamin Church became a physician, graduating from Harvard and then traveling to England to study medicine. Before returning to America, with an English bride, he also traveled through Europe. He returned home to give free inoculations to the poor during the small-

pox epidemics. Now in his early forties, Church had been a charter member of the Long Room Club over the Edes and Gill print shop. Church had examined the bleeding body of Crispus Attucks, and he and Dr. Joseph Warren had been among Samuel Adams favorite proteges. Adams had chosen him only two years earlier to speak at the anniversary of the Boston Massacre. He was also among the leaders of the Boston Tea Party.

Whether he was driven by his debt or by doubt that the patriots could win, Church had apparently begun his spying in 1771, while Samuel Adams was struggling to keep the cause alive. As a trusted member of the Provincial Congress and its Committee of Safety, Church had reported regularly to General Gage on the patriots’ supply of powder and arms. When he had brought messages to the Continental Congress the previous spring, Church had lingered in Philadelphia to pick up information and had informed Gage about the debates over financing the new army.

He was expelled from his seat on the General Court and sentenced to be confined for an indefinite period in the prison at Norwich, Connecticut without the use of pen, ink or paper, and that no person be allowed to converse with him until further orders of Congress.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Red Dawn at Lexington, by Louis Birnbaum, Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2004



NSSAR SPRING TRUSTEES MEETING

The Spring Trustees Meeting was held at the Brown Hotel a few blocks away from the NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday February 28, 2004. The Brown Hotel was built in 1923 and offers spacious meeting rooms and a gala ball room ornamented with

five crystal chandeliers and beautifully paneled walls.

The NSSAR Executive Director, James Randall, introduced Mike Scroggins who gave us a preview of the NSSAR's revised website. Each page will include menu links so people browsing the site will no longer have to click

'back' to go from page to page. SAR members can also check status of pending applications or supplemental applications at www.sar.org/hq/application. It is not linked to the general website but members can access it.

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Hutchinson Eagle Scout Honored
American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



...continued from page 1

Bill Pease of the American Legion also addressed the trustees. May 29, 2004 will be a Day of Remembrance at the World War II Memorial in Washington DC. He offered ideas for local celebrations for World War II veterans who cannot travel to Washington DC. The American Legion and the Sons of the American Revolution share this interesting bond: Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. founded the American Legion and his father, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the charter of the SAR.

The trustees received packets which included written reports of all the officers, committees and vice president generals of the 15 districts of the NSSAR.

By-Law Amendments

The Trustees were asked to approve six proposals for by-law amendments to be voted on at the National Congress in Pittsburgh next July. A new Article VI-SAR Foundation passed stating that a foundation may be formed for the purpose of supporting the NSSAR. The proposal to amend Bylaw No. 21, Section 5, was defeated after much debate. This would have allowed all funds except the George Washington Endowment Fund may be



transferred to the SAR foundation.

Other amendments simply corrects wording pertaining to Junior members and deletes duplicate paragraphs and computer cut-and-paste errors in Bylaw 18, Section 2 (b), and Bylaw 18, Section 7. These amendments easily passed.

The fifth proposal, which passed, amends Bylaw 14, adding a Section 2 stating the International District shall be composed of all remaining territory outside the aforementioned Districts.

The sixth proposal was tabled until the Spring 2005 Trustees Meeting. It dealt with adding the Mexico Society to the

Rocky Mountain District.

None of these By-Law amendments take effect until they are debated and ratified by the National Congress in Pittsburgh next summer.

Other Business

The trustees also approved the nominating committee report and the proposed budget to be presented at the NSSAR Congress.

Banquet

The Friday and Saturday evening banquets were the highlight of the Spring Trustees Meeting. On Saturday we were served a mixed green salad and a choice of vinaigrette or ranch dressing. Prime rib, a baked potato and a medley of green beans,

zucchini, tomato, onions and carrots were served for the main course. For dessert we were treated to *Rustic Apple Delight* garnished with whipped cream and a flower blossom and sprinkled with cinnamon.

We were entertained by the Youth Performing Arts School Orchestra of Jefferson County, Kentucky. This same group will perform at Carnegie Hall and be broadcast on a future episode of *From the Top* on National Public Radio.



OUR OWN DUANE L.C.M. GALLES SPEAKS AT GEORGE WASHINGTON OBSERVANCE AND LUNCHEON



*Compatriot
Duane L.C.M.
Galles and
Michael Scott
Swisher, Vice
President of
the Minnesota
S.R.*

On February 21, members and spouses of the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution attended the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

Minnesota SAR Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, the Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr. gave an eloquent invocation.

A leafy green salad with creamy dressing and an assortment of rolls started our tasty luncheon. The main course consisted of sliced roast beef, au jus, mashed potatoes, and peas and carrots. For dessert we were served rainbow sherbet.

After luncheon Michael Scott Swisher,

Vice President of the SR, introduced the day's speaker.

Duane L.C.M. Galles' topic was entitled, *Washington's Odyssey in the Land of Titles: From "His Excellency," The Commander in Chief, to "Mr. President"*. He spoke about the history of how the title, "His Excellency" in the early Middle Ages was a most exalted one but by the fifteenth century it had begun to decline by over use. Later, the alternative style of "Highness" or "Grace" or even "Majesty" was adopted.

This same concern for titles was in the cultural baggage that our colonial ancestors brought with them from England. Royal governors were styled "His Excellency." When the American colonies declared their indepen-

dence from Britain, their new republican rulers made no rush to discard the titles theretofore in use by royal governors.

The Continental Congress accorded to its President and also to its Commander in Chief, General George Washington, the title of "His Excellency." Curiously, a little over a decade later, after the Constitution had been adopted and Washington had been elected both President and Commander-in-Chief, he was denied that style and there was a protracted debate over the style of address for the American President.

It is widely known that John Adams wanted the style in use by the leaders of the Dutch Republic, "His High Mightiness." Others argued for the more traditional style of "His Excellency." Some opposed any title at all and some have seen in this the voice of budding democracy. No one actually won the dispute, and finally James Madison brokered a compromise suggestion whereby Washington was to be addressed simply as "Mr. President."

SAR Award Organizers Sought

The MNSSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 26 Minneapolis area high schools and 18 ROTC units throughout Minnesota— in addition to the work involved being the MNSSAR 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 MNSSAR. If you are interested please contact John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275. His e-mail address is John@GoodNewsProductions.us

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 18, 2004. Festivities begin at 11:30 a.m. and luncheon will be served at noon.



Hutchinson Eagle Scout Honored

John Robert Rasmussen, of the Viking Council Boy Scouts of America, received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. John, from Hutchinson, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. His mother and father were also in attendance. John read his patriotic essay entitled *The Battle of Cowpens: The*

Greatest Patriot Victory which is presented below in its entirety.

John's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners for an \$8,000 scholarship. \$4,000 and \$2,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen. This years national winner was the California Society candidate. The first and second runners-up were from Indiana and Texas. Eagle Scout essays from thirty-eight states were represented.

The Battle of Cowpens: The Greatest Patriot Victory

By John Robert Rasmussen – 2003 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Lexington. Concord.
Bunker Hill. Yorktown.

The Revolutionary War included battles from the cold of Canada to the sun-drenched fields of Georgia. Many of the fights were contested in well-known locations or near key military landmarks. Yet of all the battles, the most important may have taken place in a back country area where cattle roamed freely and only houses, crops and gardens were fenced in. In the wake of major British triumphs at Charleston and Camden, the Battle of Cowpens may have been the most important piece of the puzzle in the colonist's bid for freedom from England.

By the late 1770s, Britain

had blockaded most of the northern colonies and had shifted its focus to the south. Having captured Savannah, Georgia in 1778, the British strategy was to secure all of Georgia and then make a path northward through the Carolinas and Virginias. By mid-1780, the British had established key outposts in both Georgia and South Carolina but suffered a serious setback in early October when Patriot militia surrounded and defeated a loyalist army of over 1,000 men at Kings Mountain, S.C. The stage was set for one of the war's key battles on January 17, 1781.

At the suggestion of militia leaders, Brigadier General Daniel Morgan planned to do

battle at a road junction known as "the Cowpens." Morgan's colonial contingent included over 1,000 militia from the Carolinas and Georgia; 80 calvarymen; and 600 experienced Continentals and Virginia militia. The British countered with 1,100 troops under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton.

In planning for the battle, Morgan followed a three-tier defensive plan made popular by 18th-century European warfare. The first line of defense was a skirmish line of just over 100 militia. After contact with the British troops, the militia was to fall back 150 yards to the second position, which consisted of the remaining militia under

the command of Colonel Andrew Pickens. After firing two volleys at the British at a distance of 50 yards, the militia was to retreat 150 yards behind the main line of battle, the Continental army under the command of Colonel John Eager Howard. Morgan's plan was aided by the Cowpens' terrain, which put his men downhill from the advancing British and increased their tendency to shoot high. In addition, the downhill position forced the British forces to be silhouetted against the morning sunlight and provided easy targets for the Patriot sharpshooters.

Morgan's plan worked to perfection and left the British troops fleeing and surrendering. Two months later, the British suffered more casualties at Guilford Courthouse and were forced to backtrack to Virginia where they were eventually surrounded at Yorktown by a combined French and Patriot contingent led by General George Washington.

The Battle of Cowpens was an important event in the Revolutionary War. Along with other battles of the revolution, it showed the ingenuity, resolve and spirit of the American people – attributes that have served America well for more than 200 years and will keep our country strong for future generations.

Welcome to our new member, **Robert Edward Kahl, II**, who received his membership certificate and rosette at our meeting!

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, November 3, 1775

BRITISH SURRENDER FORT ST. JOHNS

A fatal stab to the foes of freedom

Fort St. Johns, Canada.— Brigadier General Richard Montgomery's bombardment was so devastating that British General Richard Prescott surrendered Fort St. Johns yesterday after a huge mortar called "the Old Sow" arrived in the American camp.

For a few weeks after the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point by the flamboyant team of Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold, the Continental Congress was timorous of further aggression against royal establishment in the North. But when word filtered back to Philadelphia that Sir Guy Carleton, military governor of Canada, was making preparations to invade these colonies and instigating the Indian nations to take up the hatchet against them, the Congress changed its mind.

Carleton was known to have less than eight hundred regulars with which to protect his sprawling colony. If the Americans moved quickly, it was unlikely he would be reinforced in time from England or Boston. They calculated too, that once they had seized the principal cities and posts, Canadians and Indians would join them.

Earlier this year Congress assigned the invasion of Canada to Philip Schuyler, a tall, slight, pleasant-looking, brown-eyed man. The task would have been enormous for a robust man of action. For Schuyler it was almost insurmountable. Fortunately Schuyler's second in command was a strong man and a determined one. Brigadier General Richard Montgomery had been

one of General Jeffrey Amherst's captains in the French and Indian War.

Schuyler was ill back in Albany when Montgomery's spies reported Carleton ready to launch two heavily armed vessels at Fort St. Johns to defend the Sorel River above Lake Champlain. The brigadier knew he could wait no longer. Once Carleton put armed craft into the water, he would be able to tear apart Montgomery's unprotected troops moving up in open bateaux. Montgomery shoved off with his whole force for Ile-aux-Noix, twenty miles below St. Johns to boom the Sorel. On the fifth of September, Montgomery promptly laid siege to stockaded Fort St. Johns.

Except for a sortie the first afternoon, the garrison, feeling secure behind the massive log walls, did not sally from its post. Great trees cleared from the dense forests had been anchored in the earth with their interlaced branches sharpened and pointing outward to make an impenetrable abatis.

The woods were soggy with early fall rain, and on the squelching, morassy ground, within a week, upwards of six hundred men, nearly half Montgomery's force, lay too sick to stand duty. The rest shoveled siege lines in the muddy soil. Each day the weather grew colder, and the rains steadied in. When the inexhaustible brigadier managed to raise a gun battery north of the fort on an eminence that commanded the enemy's works, the garrison at last gloomily stacked arms in surrender.

Ethan Allen captured six weeks ago at Montreal

Earlier, Ethan Allen had joined the expedition and had already gone forward to adventure. He had been sent ahead to enlist Canadians for Montgomery.

Ethan Allen was captured when he and Major John Brown tried to assault Montreal on their own. The two agreed to separate their force of three hundred men and close in on the city from opposite sides. When Allen found himself alone and unsupported before the fortress walls on the appointed day, September 25, he brazenly advanced alone. He had led a small band to its walls to demand surrender. As his troops got close they were struck by the absurdity of the challenge, and all but forty drifted away. When the British garrison opened fire, Allen and his men ran for nearly a mile before they were caught.

As Ethan Allen turned his sword over to a British officer, a painted and nearly naked Indian tried to shoot him, but Allen got the officer between them, and the Indian didn't fire. His escape left him content to be in custody, and he and his captors joked together as they escorted him to their barracks yard.

That good fellowship soon evaporated. Richard Prescott, the same general who surrendered Fort St. Johns, demanded to know whether he was the same Colonel Allen who had taken Ticonderoga. When Allen said yes, Prescott swore, called him a rebel and shook his cane at him. Allen raised his fist and told the general to put his cane aside. At that,

Prescott ordered his men to step forward with their bayonets drawn and stab to death the thirteen Canadians who had joined Allen in his raid. The Prisoners had already begun to say their prayers when Allen bared his chest and told Prescott that since he was to blame for their mutiny, he should be the one to die.

"I Will not execute you now," Prescott barked, "But you shall grace a halter at Tyburn, God damn you!"

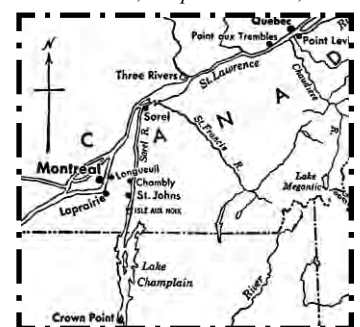
He ordered Allen bound hand and foot and taken to a schooner christened the *Gaspee* in honor of the ship burned in Rhode Island. Allen's leg irons weighed thirty pounds and were so tight around his ankles that he could lie only on his back with a sea chest as his bed. Allen will be sent to England for trial.

Montgomery openly lamented Allen's imprudence and ambition. Ethan Allen's impetuous little foray may have irreparably damaged the American cause in Canada.

Source: *Patriots*, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

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



AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, November 15, 1775



BRITISH EVACUATE MONTREAL, FORTIFY QUEBEC

Arnold leads an expedition to Quebec

Quebec, Canada.—Yesterday Colonel Benedict Arnold sent a messenger to demand Sir Guy Carleton surrender Quebec. The British fired at the courier, who turned and ran back. Meanwhile Arnold heard that even more British reinforcements were on the way. His men had ammunition for five rounds. Neither pride nor valor could argue against a timely retreat. Arnold took his men to a haven twenty miles above Quebec, set up camp at Pointe-aux-Trembles, to wait for General Montgomery to arrive.

When Montgomery's force crossed the St. Lawrence on the blowing cold morning of November 12 and landed north of Montreal, only a hundred and fifty men were in the garrison. Sir Guy Carleton, military governor of Canada, who was present, and General Prescott, the commander, tried to get the men away by boat, but the Americans took the whole body, except for Carleton himself, who slipped away.

Nothing now lay between the long-legged brigadier and Quebec, last British stronghold of Canada. But Benedict Arnold with another American force was there ahead of him, after an overland trek through the Maine and Canadian wilderness so frightful that it made Montgomery's northward drive, with all its difficulties, seem like a Sunday stroll.

Arnold owed his presence before Quebec to a decision of General Washington back in August to send a diversionary

expedition to Canada by way of the Kennebec River, with the expectation that it would distract Carleton from Schuyler's advance by way of the lakes. Carleton either would follow the diversionary force and leave Schuyler's way open, or would be forced to allow Quebec to fall into Arnold's hands.

On September 13 a force of about eleven hundred men, the equivalent of a battalion, including three rifle companies, marched toward Newburyport, Mass. The rifle companies, two from Pennsylvania and one from Virginia, were drawn by lot and as units, but the rest of the troops were invited to volunteer. The response was greater than expected; by now the siege of Boston had become a boresome job for most of them.

From Newburyport a fleet of "dirty coasters and fish boats" passed through a night of storm and the next day turned into the mouth of the Kennebec and made its way up the twisting river forty-nine miles to a shipyard and another nine miles to little Fort Western. After several days at the fort the army organized itself for its plunge into the wilderness to begin the 385-mile trek to Quebec.

From the first the going was hard. Everything, including the bateaux, had to be carried around a quarter-mile of rapids above the fort. At Ticonic Falls, about eighteen miles farther, the men began to learn what a portage was like. Over sixty-five tons of supplies had to be hauled around the falls

on aching, raw shoulders; the long pointed bateaux, weighing four hundred pounds apiece, were each carried by four men. Often it rained. On the first of October it poured during the night, and the men's clothes were frozen. When Benedict Arnold reached the Dead River, it was October 16.

The daily rations for Arnold's advance riflemen fell to half an inch of raw pork and half a biscuit. The brambles and the small firs had become so thick that the men were scrambling along on all fours like dogs. They were eating dog too. A captain surrendered his great black Newfoundland, which had been a company favorite, and the men ate every bit, including the entrails. When a man's boots wore out, he wrapped his sore feet in flour bags and kept marching. For thread the men pulled up cedar root, and during the portages they patched their dugouts with pitch scraped from pine trees. Sickness cut the eleven hundred men to fewer than seven hundred and in near danger of starvation.

The gaunt, half-dead men had fought their way through the frozen wilderness, portaging over the watershed between the streams flowing north to the St. Lawrence. Nearly all the bateaux were gone, beaten to bits, and finally all but a few were abandoned. Over ridges, ruts and morasses the men stumbled toward their goal.

The night of November first the men reached the habitations of the first Canadians they had seen. Starvation had past. Through bitter cold, snowy weather, the army now

pressed for the St. Lawrence. Quebec, lay on the other side.

For a week, Arnold had to send men as far away as twenty miles to buy birchbark and canvas while every day the British went on improving their defenses. It was nine p.m. on November 13, before Arnold and his canoes slipped past the British ships on the river and landed at Wolfe's cove. At daybreak yesterday, Arnold led the men up a steep path to an expanse of land called the Plains of Abraham. General James Wolfe had stood there sixteen years before, at the head of thousands of well-equipped British troops and with twenty-two ships to control the St. Lawrence. General Wolfe had taken Quebec from the French.

Arnold's several hundred ragged men compared with Wolfe's legions only in courage, and yet Arnold planned to use the same tactic that had succeeded before. Arnold intended to get the British out from behind their walls so that the Canadians and their militia could seize the town and turn it over to Arnold.

Sir Guy Carleton, had served as a subaltern with Wolfe and wasn't going to be tricked by a stratagem the British had invented. Carleton had eighteen hundred men inside the fortress, but because he doubted the sympathies of the Canadians he kept his troops behind the walls.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scherer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SUMMER 2004



NSSAR 114TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

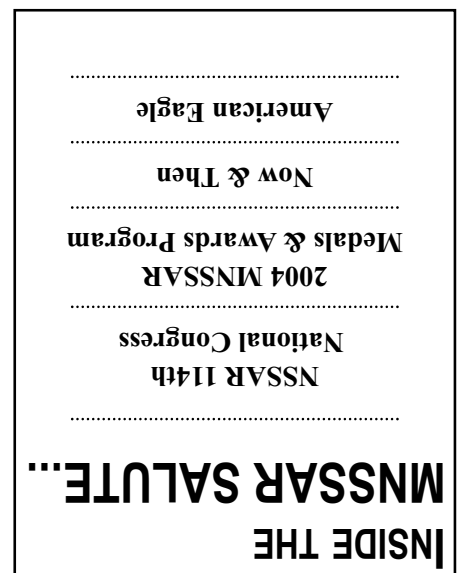
*Reported by Peter Arrott Dixon, Dual
MNSSAR and DCSSAR member*

July 3-7, 2004 Pittsburgh, PA –
The 114th Annual Congress of the
National Society Sons of the Ameri-
can Revolution was held at the Hilton
Pittsburgh located at 600 Common-
wealth Place, Gateway Center.

I believe it would be fair to say
that we had a successful Congress
with several enjoyable events includ-

ing the very impressive Sunday
Memorial Service in the Heinz
Chapel located at the University of
Pittsburgh. On Friday night prior to
the Congress, a cruise on the River
Belle with dinner on the three rivers
that meet at Pittsburgh took place. A
Saturday night reception was given at
the Hilton Hotel by the Pittsburgh
Society and the Pennsylvania Society,

continued inside...



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



...continued from page 1
and those attending the Congress had the option to attend a musical play afterwards entitled "1776".

Other extra-curricular activities included a bus tour with box lunch on Saturday to the Falling Waters and Kentuck Knob homes designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and to Fort Nece-sity National Battlefield. The very impressive Mon-day luncheon honored the top winners of the Oration, Essay, ROTC and Eagle Scout Programs.

Now with regard to action taken by the delegates, a number of delegates had expressed concern in regard to clari-fying the bylaws for the SAR Foundation (Center for Advancing America's Heritage) and to bring up to date the membership of the Foundation's Board of Directors. Elected at this Congress to the SAR Foundation Board were President General B. Rice

Aston and Lester A. Foster, Jr., Past President and National Trustee, Mary-land Society, SAR.

On Tuesday, the Con-gress elected the proposed slate of National Officers for the term 2004-2005 and also elected the National Trustees and Alternatives. Henry (Hank) McCarl of Gloucester, MA was elect-ed President General. In two other contested offices Bruce Wilcox of VA was elected Registrar and Richard Sage of NY was elected Historian General. All other positions were uncontested.

The Tuesday and Wednesday night banquets were the traditional formal affairs which introduced the new Vice President Generals and new officers, and the impressive cere-mony of placing George Washington's signet ring by the outgoing President General on the hand of the incoming President General.

2004 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



*The flag flies at
half-staff over
CGC in honor of
President
Ronald Reagan*

ROTC Awards

Nineteen young men from ROTC units located throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the Minnesota SAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midship-men who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis area high schools and also at the Twin Cities Naval Sea Cadet Squadron. John Hallberg Jones attended their award dinner at the Fort Snelling Club. Also in attendance were the DAR and National Sojourners. It was a fine start for their program. Total attendance

at the dinner was nearly 100. It was great. Medals were also awarded to eleven Saint Paul area high school students this year. The criteria for the recipi-ent of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service*, and an appreciation of *Patriotism*.

Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certifi-cates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing their patriotism and love of country. This years recipi-ents are:

- Container Graphics Corp, White Bear Township
- Children's Discovery, Vadnais Heights
- Children's Discovery, Little Canada
- PAR Systems, Inc., Shoreview
- Taymark, White Bear Township

NEW MNSSAR MEMBERS:

NSSAR#	Name	Ancestor
162010	Robert Edward Kahl II	Johan Michael Kehl
162756	Tracy Ashley Crocker	Sgt. William Ashley
162876	Glen Howard Van Wormer	Timothy Higgins

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 18, 2004. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



NOW & THEN

John Hallberg Jones is currently Secretary-Treasurer of the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution having served in that capacity almost forty years. He joined the MNSSAR in December 1962. John's father was President of the Minneapolis Chapter when he joined at the age of 19.

John is an active member of numerous other societies:

- He founded the Minnesota Branch of the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims in 1978 and served as its first Branch Governor. He was Governor General of the National Society 1983-1986. He is currently Secretary-Treasurer.
- He founded the National Society of the Sons of the Colonists in 1986 and served as Governor General 1986-1988
- President General of the Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry 1988-1991
- Served as Governor General of Continental Society Sons of Indian Wars 1997-1999
- President of the National Gavel Society 2001-2004
- Currently Assistant Treasurer General of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the U.S.A.
- Currently Treasurer General of the Order of Three Crusades 1096-1192
- Currently Treasurer General of the Sons of Colonial

New England.

- Currently Chaplain General of Loyalists and Patriots
- Founding Chaplain General of First Families of Rhode Island
- Founding Adjutant, Past Commander, and currently Treasurer of the Fort Snelling Chapter of Military Order of the World Wars.
- Mayflower Society
- Jamestown Society
- Military Order of the Crusades
- Currently Archivist General American of Royal Descent
- Colonial Order of the Acorn
- Colonial Order of the Blue and Gray
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Sons of Confederate Veterans
- Military Order of the Stars and Bars
- Order of the First World War
- Order of the Second World War
- Sons and Daughters of the Colonial and Antebellum Bench and Bar
- Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters
- Order of the First Families of Maine
- Flagon and Trencher, Society of Colonial Tavern Keepers
- Descendants of Colonial Clergy
- Presidential Families of

America

- Hereditary Order of the Families of the Presidents and First Ladies of America
- Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts
- Scions of Colonial Cavaliers
- Past President and currently Secretary of the Minnesota Huguenot Society
- Past Historian of Wisconsin Society of the Society of Colonial Wars
- Past Councillor General for Wisconsin Order of Founders and Patriots of America
- Past President and Past Vice President General for Society of the War of 1812 in Minnesota
- Currently Marshall Grand Protector for Minnesota National Guild of St. Margaret of Scotland
- Military Order of Foreign Wars
- First Families of Massachusetts
- Currently Registrar of the Sons of the Revolution in Minnesota.

Who knew there were so many societies!

John and his wife, Lane, went to South High School together and have been married over 40 years. They have two sons, both of whom are members of the MNSSAR. They have six grandchildren. Five are living, one died of Sudden

Infant Death Syndrome nine years ago.

John and Lane are active members at Cedar Valley Church (Assemblies of God) in Bloomington, serving as Deacons.

John was in the wholesale paper merchant business for 37 years, retiring in June 2000. His final 32 years were with Inter City Paper Company, which became known as Unisource Worldwide, Inc. He was a principal in the company and served on the Board of Directors of Inter City Paper and was corporate partner in Unisource at retirement.

John has proven ten ancestors in the American Revolution:

- William Leonard and his son William Leonard
- Zebulon Field and his son Nathaniel Field
- Abraham White and his son Saul White
- Westbrook Knight and his son Thomas Knight
- William Smith
- Elijah Lincoln

Of these, Westbrook Knight was an approved ancestor for many years until he found documentation that he was not the individual whose service had been cited. The individual file has been closed at national headquarters.

Elijah Lincoln, born 1719, was almost 60 at the time of the Revolutionary War. He was chairman of the Committee of Safety, Inspection, and Correspondence in Taunton, Massachusetts. As such he was probably the leading "rebel" in the town.

Now we know where John's organizational skills come from! John is the heart and soul of the MNSSAR and we are very glad to have him!

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday, January 1, 1776

BRITISH REPEL AMERICAN ATTACK AT QUEBEC

Montgomery killed, Arnold wounded.

Quebec, Canada. — On the afternoon of Saturday, December 30, snow began falling. It thickened. The wind rose. By early yesterday morning, a blizzard was howling about Quebec. Snow mixed with hail whistled into the faces of the Americans moving to their positions. They ducked their heads and shielded their firelocks with their coats. At some time after four o'clock, signal rockets burst red in the blackness above them, and the Americans began marching.

The rocket signals to the American troops were alarms for the British, and the town burst awake. Within Quebec drums began beating and bells tolled. Sir Guy Carleton, who had narrowly escaped Montgomery's attack on Montreal, ordered his formidable barricades in the Lower Town manned.

On the left of the American pincers, Montgomery's division was slipping and sliding down the slopes toward the road from Wolfe's Cove to Cape Diamond. Men carrying unwieldy scaling ladders could barely struggle through drifts six feet deep. At a wood barrier Montgomery ordered his carpenters to saw off the pickets while he rushed ahead with two dozen men. They came to a log house with holes in its walls for muskets. Inside waited a guard of British soldiers and sailors. Montgomery, Aaron Burr, a few other officers and about a dozen men rushed forward.

They were within a few paces of the blockhouse when a sheet of flame and a hail of grape and musket balls raked them. Another burst, and it was all over.

Montgomery lay dead. So did most of his officers. Only Burr and a few men got away.

With Montgomery's charge on the Lower Town repelled, the entire British garrison was free to ward off Arnold's attack at the northeast. Arnold's force of six hundred men left the suburb of St. Roch and stole silently past the Palace Gate. They veered right, and a sudden blaze of musketry from the ramparts above raked them. Men fell. They moved on, Arnold leading an advance party of about twenty-five men, including Daniel Morgan. Behind them came forty artillerymen dragging a six-pounder on a sled, and behind them came the main body.

Arnold and Morgan came to a narrow street that was blocked by a barricade. They called for the six-pounder. It had been abandoned. A gun in the barricade fired but no damage. Arnold ordered a charge.

Out of the snow the Americans came, yelling rushing to the barrier, and firing through the gun ports. The British fired back. Arnold was struck by a musket ball that broke his leg and pitched him forward into the snow. Pulling himself up, he tried to lead the charge on one leg. Bleeding freely, Arnold was led limping to a



The head of the column surmounted one barricade, but a blast of fire from a blockhouse killed Montgomery and most of his officer's.

military surgeon a mile from the battle while Daniel Morgan took command.

The Old Wagoner mounted a ladder set against the barrier; calling upon his men to follow. A blaze of fire tumbled him back into the snow. He had a bullet through his cap and another through his beard. Shaking himself, Morgan leaped erect, climbed the ladder again and jumped over the parapet. Others followed. The defenders fled. The Americans were inside the Lower Town and were fighting desperately. Carleton had sent a force of two hundred men and cannon out the Palace Gate to take them in the rear. Morgan's men were trapped. They began to surrender. Morgan fought on. He set his back against a wall. Tears of rage and despair flowed down his face as he stood there, his sword uplifted for his last blows. His men implored him to give up. He shook his head.

Then Morgan saw a clergyman in the crowd and called: "Are you a priest?" The man nodded, and Morgan handed him his blade with the words: "Then I give my sword to you. No scoundrel of those cowards shall take it out of my hands."

Two bursts of gunfire, an able maneuver by Carleton, and the attempt to storm Quebec had been repulsed.

The total American casualties at Quebec were devastating: 48 killed, 34 wounded and 372 captured, probably more than half the small force engaged. And yet, Montgomery and Arnold might have succeeded, had not the death of the former and the wounding of the latter simply demoralized their valiant troops.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

George Washington's War, by Robert Leckie, HarperCollins, 1992

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2004

DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE ON GOD

On June 12, 1775, one year before the Declaration of Independence was written, the Continental Congress, aware that a choice between war and peace was imminent, issued what has come to be called a "Declaration of Dependence on God." In a most specific way, it reflects the religious outlook that prevailed in early America. The document reads in part:

"This Congress... do earnestly

recommend that Thursday, the twentieth day July next, be observed by the inhabitants of all the English colonies on this Continent as a day of public humiliation, fasting, and prayer; that we may, with united hearts and voices unfeignedly confess and deplore our many sins, and offer up our joint supplications to the all-wise omnipotent and merciful Disposer of all events; humbly

beseeching Him to forgive our iniquities, and remove our present calamities..."

Each of us can do his or her part to bring this spirit of dependence on God increasingly into our government, especially in these critical times when so much misery has come about because men have abandoned or defied Him.

James Keller

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

Declaration of
Dependence on God

Brigadier General M. Hall
Worthington Speaks at Annual
Constitution Week Luncheon

2005 Dues Notice

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



ANNUAL CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON:

Brigadier General M. Hall Worthington, General President of the SR is Guest of Honor

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 18, 2004. Our Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones opened with greetings and introduced William McLaughlin, Minnesota SR President, and Larry Larson Warren, Vice President of the MNSSAR. Greetings were extended by John Scarpino (Iowa), the newly elected Vice President General of the North Central District – NSSAR. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge Mr. Jones gave a very eloquent invocation.

We were offered a choice of three entrees: Chicken Vesuvio, a full half roasted chicken; Beef Stroganoff; or Grilled Salmon served with a vegetable medley of zucchini, carrots and green beans. For desert we were treated to a lemon parfait, which had a pecan base, a layer of custard, and a layer of lemon filling served with a dollop of whipped cream and sprinkled with chopped walnuts.

Before luncheon the Minnesota Sons of the



Revolution conducted their business. Following that John Hallberg Jones, our Secretary-Treasurer, presented a certificate and rosette to our new member, John Charles Sassaman.

Michael Scott Swisher, Vice President of the Minnesota SR introduced today's speaker, Brigadier General, M. Hall Worthington, General President of the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution.

Hall Worthington is a native Marylander, born and raised in Baltimore. He graduated from the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and the Johns Hopkins University. Also, he holds a masters degree from Central Michigan University, and graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College,

and the National Defense University.

He joined the National Guard in 1953, rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant, and was commissioned in 1957 through Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA and has spent over 35 years with the Army in the National Guard, Army Reserves, or on active, primarily in the military police occupational specialty. Upon retirement from the Reserves as a Colonel, he became a member of the Maryland Defense Force, and was made Commanding General by the Governor of Maryland in 1995, in the grade of brigadier general. General Worthington retired again in 1998, and became president of the Maryland State Guard

Guest Speaker,

M. Hall Worthington,

General President of the SR

and Michael Scott Swisher,

newly elected Minnesota

President of the SR.

Association. In October 2001, General Worthington was elected president of State Guard Association of the United States.

Hall Worthington brought us an update on SR matters. He announced that a new Connecticut State Society and the French Society had recently been issued charters by the Executive Committee. He noted that the General Society SR recently moved from very cramped quarters in Fraunces Tavern, New York to more spacious offices in Independence, Missouri. The SR also now offers an on-line patriots index and merchandise ordering.

The 175th Infantry Maryland National Guard unit, which Worthington was a part, has a history



dating back to 1774. They fought at the battle of Long Island in the Revolutionary War and were at North-point in the War of 1812. The 175th Infantry MD fought in every major U.S. war. Three years ago they were called back to service and served six months in Bosnia.

General Worthington explained that the National Guard is run by the federal government as opposed to the Defense Forces which are run by the governor. Twenty-two states have Defense Forces which back-up the National Guard

Hall Worthington stated his displeasure with the national news media for only providing negative news about the war in Iraq. He read a letter from Sergeant First Class Reynolds of the Iowa National Guard that listed all the positive news he sees first-hand in Iraq including:

- Over 400,000 kids have up-to-date immunizations.
- School attendance is up 80% from levels before the war.
- Over 1,500 schools have been renovated and rid of the weapons stored there so education can occur.
- The port of Uhm Qasar was renovated so grain can be off-loaded from ships faster
- The country had its first 2 billion barrel export of oil in August

- Over 4.5 million people have clean drinking water for the first time ever in Iraq.
- The country now receives 2 times the electrical power it did before the war.
- 100% of the hospitals are open and fully staffed, compared to 35% before the war.
- Elections are taking place in every major city, and city councils are in place.
- Sewer and water lines are installed in every major city.
- Over 60,000 police are patrolling the streets.
- Over 100,000 Iraqi civil defense police are securing the country.
- Over 80,000 Iraqi soldiers are patrolling the streets side by side with U.S. soldiers.
- Over 400,000 people have tele-

phones for the first time ever.

- An interim constitution has been signed.
- Girls are allowed to attend school.

Sergeant Reynolds ended his letter with "Don't think for one minute that they don't want us there!"

Following his wonderful oration, M. Hall Worthington honored the new officers of the Minnesota SR by installing them into office.

Noting that he traveled from Baltimore to speak to us, John Hallberg Jones presented M. Hall Worthington with a book entitled; *Saint Paul, Modern City of Renaissance*.



New MNSSAR member John Charles Sassaman and John Hallberg Jones, Secretary-Treasurer, MNSSAR
John Sassaman received his membership certificate and rosette at the annual MNSSAR Constitution Day Luncheon.
NSSAR #163103, MNSSAR #1996. Ancestor John Stefan Cleckner.

2005 DUES

You should have received your 2005 dues notice by now.

Please note that your annual dues are due earlier so they can be forwarded to National Headquarters by January 1st. We must receive the dues by December 31 for the upcoming year to prevent a member from being dropped.

Make checks payable to S.A.R. and remit to John Hallberg Jones, Secretary-Treasurer – 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743

Please consider a tax-deductible donation in support of SAR principles. Make a separate check payable to Minnesota SAR Endowment Trust Fund. Thank you.

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual General Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul on Saturday, January 9, 2005. The meeting begins at 11 AM. Luncheon (from the menu) will be served at noon. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday, February 27, 1776

MOORE'S CREEK BRIDGE – A TORY DISASTER!

Wilmington, No. Carolina – This morning, the North Carolina minute men and militia had an engagement with the Tories at Widow Moore's Creek Bridge. At the break of day an alarm gun was fired, immediately after which, scarcely leaving the Americans a moment to prepare, the Tory army with Captain Donald McLeod at their head made their attack on Colonels Richard Caswell and John Lillington, posted near the bridge, and finding a small entrenchment vacant concluded that the Americans had abandoned their post. With this supposition, they advanced in a most furious manner over the bridge. Colonel Caswell had very wisely ordered the planks to be taken up, so that in passing they met with many difficulties. On reaching a point within thirty paces of the breastworks they were received with a very heavy fire, which did great execution. Captains McLeod and Campbell were instantly killed, the former having nine bullets and twenty-four swan shot through and into his body.

The insurgents retreated with the greatest precipitation, leaving behind them some of their wagons, etc. They cut their horses out of the wagons and mounted three upon a horse. Many of them fell into the creek and were drowned. Tom Rutherford ran like a lusty fellow: both he and Felix Keenan were in arms against

the Carolinians, and they by this time are prisoners, as is Lieutenant Colonel Cotton, who ran at the first fire.

The battle lasted three minutes. Twenty-eight of the Tories, besides the two captains are killed or mortally wounded, and between twenty and thirty taken prisoners, among whom is his Excellency General Donald MacDonald. Before the day was over the fleeing loyalist army was overtaken and captured almost to a man: nearly eight hundred and fifty rank and file and thirty officers were made prisoner. This, we think, will effectually put a stop to Toryism in North Carolina.

When Colonel John Lillington arrived at the bridge on the 25th, he quickly saw the position's defensive advantages. The creek, a dark, sluggish, stream about 35 feet wide, wound through swampy terrain and could be crossed in the vicinity of only over this bridge. To dominate the crossing, Lillington built a low earthwork on a slight rise overlooking the bridge and its approach from the east. Joining Lillington the next day, Colonel Richard Caswell sent his men across the bridge to throw up earthworks there. Thus by yesterday evening the patriots straddled the bridge. Lillington with 150 men waited on the east side of the creek, and Caswell with 850 men were camped on the west. During the night, realizing the



folly of fighting with a river at his back, Caswell abandoned the camp and withdrew across the creek.

On February 20, 1,600 Scottish Highlanders set off from the Cross Creek area about 100 miles from the coast under the command of Brigadier General Donald MacDonald. On February 26, they learned that 1,000 Rebels were waiting with two cannon at Moore's Creek Bridge, which was six miles ahead. General MacDonald was now too ill to actively command.

The Loyalists, under command of Captain Donald McLeod, began the six-mile march to Moore's Creek Bridge at one o'clock this morning. Just before dawn, they discovered abandoned earthworks on the west side of the creek—Caswell had moved his militiamen to Lillington's earthworks on the east side. In addition, the Patriots had removed planks from the

bridge and greased the stringers. The assault force followed McLeod down one stringer and Campbell down the other. To the sound of bagpipes, drums, and the cry "King George and broad swords," the Highlanders reached the other side of the creek. Concealed behind Lillington's earthworks with two cannon, known as "Old Mother Covington and her daughter," the Patriots opened fire on the Highlanders with deadly consequences.

Source: Newspaper account from the Annual Register as printed in Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

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

<http://www.americanrevolution.com/BattleofMoore'sCreekBridge.htm>

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/mocr/adhi_1.htm

<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/nc/ncsites/moores.htm>

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2005



*The Newly elected MNSSAR President
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen.*

*A group of six new members during
2004 posed for this photograph.
Clockwise from top left: Robert Kahl,
Sean McRoberts, Tracy Crocker,
Craig Whiting, John Sassaman
and Christopher Longley.*



**INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...**

.....

Annual Meeting Held at
The Lexington Restaurant

.....

Minnesota Society SAR
Officers for 2005

.....

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saint Paul, Minnesota—The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at the Lexington Restaurant on January 8, 2005. Luncheon, from the menu, was served following the meeting.

The formalities of the day were started by President Stephen John Ernest, President of the Minnesota Society. Compatriot Ernest led the Pledge to the US flag; and the Pledge to the SAR. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Minneapolis Chapter and the Saint Paul Chapter conducted their business.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Larry Larson Warren, President. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 26 area high schools in 2004, including an additional unit of Naval Sea Cadets.

The consensus was that no donations would be made this year. The Longfellow House Restoration Group has completed its task and disbanded, and the Minneapolis Public Library is building a new facility and will not be

acquiring new materials for at least a year. It was noted that the subscription to the NSSAR Magazine for the Minneapolis Public Library was renewed for a period of three years in August 2003 ending August 2006.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, Marvin Eugene Stonecipher, called the meeting to order. Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that ten of the twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2004. Eleven students were presented with medals the past May. (One school never sent a recipient name and another had no entry. One school had two recipients.) Letters will be mailed to the same twelve schools to begin the program for 2005.

Five flag certificates were presented to Saint Paul area businesses who regularly fly the flag. (See the Summer 2004 SAR Salute.)

Minnesota Society

The Trustees proposed that the 2004 interest of \$321.05 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$100.00, MN Genealogical Society \$30.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00,

Preservation Alliance of MN \$40.00, MN Genealogical Journal \$24.50, NSSAR Library for MN Census Microfilms \$106.55.

Membership

Compatriot Jones reported that membership stood at 120, with 117 members of the MNSSAR and three dual members. There were no deaths reported in 2004. New membership certificates and rosettes were presented to Crocker, Sassaman, Longley, Whiting, and Sean McRoberts. As of this date all but eight of our 120 members have paid 2005 dues. The median age of our members is 58; the median time of membership is 16 years.

NSSAR now has an Emeritus Member status for those who have paid dues for 50 years or more. Upon motions passed the Minnesota Society will apply for Emeritus Status for all such eligible members on a continuing basis and will exempt those approved from payment of Minnesota Society annual dues.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2005. All 19 units in Minnesota were part of the program in 2004. A new

unit is added for 2005, bringing the total to 20.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he has mailed over 1,000 packets to new Eagle Scouts and received about 15 entries for the contest. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting.

Other Business

The Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters were each called back into session and passed matching resolutions exempting Emeritus Members from payment of Chapter dues.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Minneapolis Chapter, the Saint Paul Chapter, and the Minnesota Society were installed by John Hallberg Jones.

The SAR Recessional was read and the meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm after which we all enjoyed our luncheon.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club on Saturday, February 19, 2005. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



2005 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Vice President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 Chancellor.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
 Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Stephen John Ernest
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Page Gregory Whitmore	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Robert James Curtiss	Robert Earl Dingley
Peter Arrott Dixon	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
John Charles Sassaman	Larry Wray Sisk
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	Rehn Douglas Smith
David Douglas Stevenson	Michael LaLond West

2 open positions

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2006 Michael Scott Swisher, PP
 Trustee ending January 2007 John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Trustee ending January 2008 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Louisville, KY in July 2005:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Vice President Larry Allan Lundblad
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
 Robert Bicknell Mirick
 David Douglas Stevenson
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Larry Larson Warren
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....James Fredrick Foster
 Vice President Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....Stephen John Ernest
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Marvin Eugene Stonecipher

ARE YOUR DUES STILL DUE?

As of January 08, 2005 only eight members still owe 2005 dues. Don't risk being dropped from membership. If you still owe 2005 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

February 1776

BIG GUNS FOR BOSTON

Cambridge, Mass.—Colonel Henry Knox and his crew brought fifty-five guns of brass and iron weighing over 120,000 pounds, twenty-three kegs of cannon— and musketballs, and one barrel of flints over three hundred miles of wilderness, half-frozen lakes, virtually impassable mountains, and frozen rivers.

Within a week of his appointment as colonel last November, Henry Knox was ordered to bring the guns of 'Fort Ti' to Washington's army at Cambridge. Accompanied by his brother William and a servant, Henry Knox arrived at Ticonderoga with men and equipment. They were soon joined by scores of other men recruited by General Philip Schuyler.

Most of the British cannon were located along the walls of the fortress, set into embrasures and held in place by iron bars and concrete. Working in icy winds along the parapets, they began to cut the bars and break out the concrete by using sledgehammers and chisels.

After weeks of backbreaking labor, forty-three cannon, three howitzers, and fourteen mortars had been lowered to the frozen ground below the parapets. Men dragged them to the shore of Lake George and loaded them on flat barges, or bateaux. In addition to the guns, they loaded thirty thousand flints and thousands of musket and cannonballs packed in kegs.

Young William Knox was given the responsibility for floating the three heavily laden bateaux down the length of Lake George. His flat-bottomed, tapered boats rode dan-

gerously low in the water as they sailed away from the frozen shoreline into the open water by breaking a channel through the ice. The sails used to propel the bateaux failed to move the overburdened craft with any appreciable speed, so the men were forced to row with long-handled wooden sweeps.

At the narrowest part of the lake, above Tongue Mountain at Sabbath Day Point, one of the bateaux ran aground, ripping out the bottom, and it started to settle with its heavy load of iron. The other boats pulled into a landing and, working in the icy waters, the men began the difficult and dangerous task of removing the guns onto the rocky shore. After several days of unbelievably brutal work, the vessel was repaired and the guns reloaded.

Henry Knox was waiting for them with hundreds of men, oxen, horses, and sleds when they arrived at Fort George on December 15. The men toiled night and day in the bitter cold to unload the guns from the bateaux and lash them onto the waiting sleds. The kegs of balls and flints were packed into sleighs carrying the lighter guns. Finally, a total of fifty-five ox-drawn sledges with eighty yoke of oxen attended by their drivers were loaded and ready to go. The snow was packed hard, and the sledges slowly crunched their way through the white-sheathed forest. Some



of the sleds broke through the top crust of ice to become locked in depressions below the surface. When this happened, everyone stopped and helped to extricate the sledge that was in trouble. Knox was strict in demanding that the entire three-mile-long caravan stay together.

Finally the procession reached Fort Edward, on the banks of the Hudson River, and on Christmas Day 1775 they crossed the frozen Hudson to the west bank. Knox chose to cross the Mohawk River and go into Albany, recrossing the Hudson from there. They crossed the Mohawk at Sloss's Ferry over ice that was dangerously thin, and one gun and sledge were lost. Somewhat behind schedule, the long column reached Albany on January fourth.

To insure thicker ice Knox sent his men out on the frozen Hudson to chop holes that would allow the water to seep to the surface. With the extra thickness he hoped the ice would be strong enough to bear the terrible weight of the loaded sledges.

The column snaked its way south toward Kinderhook and on to Claverack nine miles away. They were now in an area of steep and forbidding mountains that would test the endurance of both men and animals to the utmost. The teams pulled their ponderous burdens up steep slopes covered with hip-deep snow. The weary men and animals reached Hillsdale in New York and crossed the border into Massachusetts. There began a painful struggle through deepening snow and over rugged mountain passes, from whose heights, Knox noted, they "might have seen all the kingdoms on earth."

Not until mid-January did the long caravan reach Westfield. The following day they were in Springfield. During a fierce snowstorm on January 25, the long and weary procession struggled into Framingham, twenty-one miles from Boston. There the heavier guns were unloaded onto the ground and the sleds with the lighter-calibered guns continued toward Cambridge.

Well into February, hundreds of soldiers labored to load the big guns on scores of ox-drawn carts to transport them to Cambridge. One by one, the guns of Fort Ticonderoga were placed in the fortifications ringing Boston. Some of the new twenty-four-pounders went to arm new redoubts built at Sewell's Point, Brookline Fort, and Lamb's Dam along the Roxbury lines.

*Source: Red Dawn at Lexington,
by Louis Birnbaum,
Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2005

ACCEPTED PROTOCOL FOR SALUTING THE FLAG

Recently the StarTribune, in the *Q&A on the News*, the question was asked:

“The Star-Spangled Banner” is played before basketball games at my daughter’s school. I see a lot of confusion about whether people should stand and place their hand

over their hearts. Can you clarify?

This is the accepted protocol, as explained by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution:

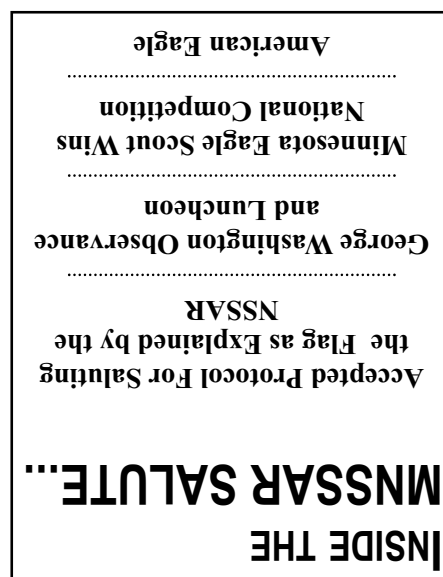
When the flag is displayed during the playing of the national anthem, all

present, except those in military uniform, should stand at attention facing the flag, with the right hand over the heart.

A man not in uniform should remove his hat with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, with the right hand over the heart.

Those in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain the position until the last note.

When the flag is not displayed, those present should face the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





SCOUT MASTER BRETT RASMUSSEN SPEAKS AT GEORGE WASHINGTON OBSERVANCE AND LUNCHEON



***MNSSAR
President,
Hon. Paul
Kent Theisen
and Secretary-
Treasurer,
John Hallberg
Jones.***

On Saturday February 19, members and spouses of the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution attended the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

Minnesota SAR President, Paul Kent Theisen, opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, Our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, gave an eloquent invocation.

A leafy green salad with creamy dressing and an assortment of rolls started our tasty luncheon. The main course consisted of sliced Roast Baron of Beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, and peas and carrots. For dessert we were served rainbow sherbet.

After luncheon Compatriot Jones presented our recently installed MNSSAR president his neck ribbon and jewel. A certificate was awarded to Rehn D. Smith for his approved supplemental papers for another revolutionary war ancestor, John Clinkinbeard.

Tim Harris, Chairman of the MNSSAR Eagle Scout Committee, then presented this year's Minnesota Eagle Scout, John Robert Rasmussen, with a trophy for his winning application and essay for the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

Afterwards Compatriot Harris introduced the day's speaker, Brett Rasmussen, Scout Master of Troop 623 of Hutchinson, Minnesota. He happens to be the father of this years MNSSAR

Eagle Scout program winner.

Brett Rasmussen had been a Cub Scout for three years, a Boy Scout for seven, and an adult leader for 20 years.

There were two troops in Hutchinson, Minnesota when Rasmussen was asked to charter a new one. Sponsored by the Lions Club, Troop 623 was chartered in October 2000 with five scouts. It has grown in less than five years to 28 boys ages 11 to 17. Statistically 2% of Boy Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle. Over their short history Troop 623 has produced seven Eagle Scouts! Ten other scouts have reached the rank of Life Scout – just one rank shy of the Eagle Summit.

Their troop promotes participation and leadership; encourages scouts to work on rank advancement and develop new skills; and strives to build character in all youths who choose to participate. Most of all they promote fun.

An average attendance of 21-24 scouts meet virtually every Monday night throughout the year but you won't always find them in their meeting room

at the Lions Den/Oddfellows Lodge on Main Street. Last year's summer schedule included a canoe night, softball night, mini golf tournament, swim night, a trip to a Minnesota Twins game, a bike hike, a fishing night and a trip to hike in the mountains of New Mexico.

Their camping schedule includes visits to the BSA's High Adventure Outpost north of Ely, Minnesota in February, a cabin outing in early April, the spring camporee in May and they will head up north for a week-long camp at Many Point Scout Camp in late June. In July they will head to Washington D.C. for the National Scout Jamboree. They will camp again in September and October and then finish up their "outdoor" schedule with a cabin camp in December.



MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS NATIONAL COMPETITION!



John Robert Rasmussen received the Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy at the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon. His father Brett Rasmussen was our guest speaker. His mother Lisa also attended.

John Robert Rasmussen, won first place and an \$8,000 scholarship for his entry in the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

John's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners. The competition was held the day before the Spring Trustees meeting on Friday, March 11, 2005 at the Camberly Brown Hotel. The national competition is

much more rigorous because he competed against the best entries of thirty-eight states.

Jason Fochtman of Texas won second place and a \$4,000 scholarship and Brandon Hopkins of Utah won a \$2,000 scholarship as second runner-up.

John, of the Viking Council Boy Scouts of America, was honored locally at the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon on February 19, 2005. He received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Tro-

phy as the Minnesota winner. His mother and father were also in attendance. John read his patriotic essay entitled *The Battle of Saratoga: Turning Point of the Revolution* which is presented in its entirety in this newsletter.

John also won the Minnesota prize in 2004.

John and his family are invited to attend the NSSAR Congress in Louisville, Kentucky where he will be honored at the Youth Awards Luncheon on July 4, 2005.

SAR Award Organizers Sought

The MNSSAR is seeking help in organizing the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and ROTC medal programs. Compatriot Jones is responsible for maintaining the 26 Minneapolis area high schools and 18 ROTC units throughout Minnesota – in addition to the work involved being the MNSSAR 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 MNSSAR. If you are interested please contact John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743, or call him at 612/721-4275. His e-mail address is John@GoodNewsProductions.us

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 24, 2005. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



THE BATTLE OF SARATOGA: TURNING POINT OF THE REVOLUTION

By John Robert Rasmussen – 2004 MNSSAR & NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program Winner

The American Revolutionary War was contested from the sun-drenched fields of Georgia to the frozen tundra of Canada. The colonial bid for freedom resulted in well documented battles at Lexington, Bunker Hill and Yorktown while equally important battles were waged at lesser-known sites like Point Pleasant and Cowpens. Yet of all the battles, the most important may have taken place in northern New York state. The Battle of Saratoga was a turning point in the Revolution because it proved to the world that the young American army was capable of beating the powerful British forces in a major confrontation.

By the late 1770s, Britain was intent on cutting New England off from the rest of the colonies by taking control of the Hudson River Valley. To that end, a force of 10,000 British soldiers under the command of General John Burgoyne headed south from Canada in the summer of 1777. But the march was not an easy one. Americans used a systematic blocking of roads, destruction of bridges and constant sniper fire to slow

the British advance. Late that summer, colonial soldiers and militia under the command of General Horatio Gates eventually stopped the advance in the area north of the Hudson valley town of Saratoga.

The British attempted to move on Saratoga on September 19, 1777. In a day-long fight known as the Battle of Freeman's Farm, Burgoyne was able to make little headway against the American patriots and ordered his men to build fortifications near Bemis Heights. Pinned down by a growing American army, Burgoyne waited for reinforcements for nearly three weeks. When none came, he decided to risk a second advance on Saratoga on October 7.

The second confrontation, known as the Battle of Bemis Heights, was an overwhelming success for the Americans. Having relied primarily on a defensive strategy for much of the campaign, Gates went on the offensive by mid-afternoon and attacked with three columns of men led by Col. Daniel Morgan, Gen. Ebenezer Learned and Gen. Enoch Poor. The British line was broken repeatedly while the flanks were punished and driven



back. Before the enemy could regroup, Gen. Benedict Arnold – who had been relieved of his command for arguing with Gates – led Learned's brigade on a final surge which overwhelmed German soldiers defending the center of the British line.

A day later, under the cover of nightfall, the British began their retreat north and took refuge in a fortified camp on the heights of Saratoga. Believing that victory was at hand, the American force surged to nearly 20,000 men and surrounded the exhausted British. Faced with such overwhelming numbers, Burgoyne surrendered on

October 17, 1777.

The Battle of Saratoga is regarded as one of the most decisive battles in American history. It put an end to the British swagger and their feeling of invincibility. It showed that the Americans were a strong fighting force. More importantly, it exemplified the spirit and patriotism of the American people – attributes that served the rebels well during the remainder of the revolution. The same resolve and spirit have been the foundation of our country for more than 200 years and will continue to keep America strong for future generations.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday March 8, 1776



STUNNING VICTORY AT DORCHESTER HEIGHTS

Boston, Mass.— Late yesterday, at a council of his senior commanders, Major-General Sir William Howe made the decision to immediately evacuate Boston! Admiral Shuldhham informed Howe that his ships could no longer remain in the harbor, for they were at the mercy of American artillery. British positions on Boston Neck opposite Roxbury were now thoroughly exposed. To remain in Boston, Howe recognized, was to expose his army to disaster.

With the guns brought to Cambridge from Ticonderoga, George Washington seized and fortified Dorchester Heights as he had planned. His battery there looked down Howe's throat and cut his communications with Boston Neck, while battering both the town and the British ships in the bay.

Earlier this week Washington sent out enough men to build a massive breastwork overnight. Since the ground on Dorchester Heights was frozen two feet deep, Washington could not throw up earthen defenses as Colonel Prescott had done on Breed's Hill. Instead, he sent quantities of chandeliers, raw wooden frames that held bundles of fascines, the long cylinders of wood that stood upright and provided a solid defense. That would give his men their walls. Barrels filled with dirt were brought to the hill and arranged in rows. If the British tried to climb up, the barrels could be rolled down on them. On the night of March 2, Washington ordered Henry Knox to begin a diversionary bombardment of the town. The bombardment was carried out with great skill and accuracy.

At dark an advance party of some eight hundred soldiers swarmed over Dorchester Heights to take up defensive positions. They were followed by twelve hundred men and with more than three hundred carts filled with fascines, barrels, rock and pressed hay. They began to do what they did best—dig, favored by the noise of the Continental cannonade smothering the sound of their labors, and a wind blowing the noise inland. Two hours before midnight they had erected two forts capable of protecting them from grapeshot or small-arms fire. Fresh working parties relived them at three in the morning, and the work continued at a feverish pace. Although the night was mild and a bright moon was visible, a low-hanging mist on the harbor shielded them from British eyes.

In the light of dawn the British were even more astonished than they had been at Bunker Hill. One engineer said only a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men could have built such fortifications so fast. Another officer opted for magic: "an expedition equal to the genii of Aladdin's lamp." Magic or muscle, General Howe was dismayed. He could not permit the upstart Yankees to improve these already formidable positions and immediately began planning to attack them. Even though by March 4th the Dorchester Heights fortifications were made much more complete and forbidding than those of Breed's Hill, Howe still intended to strike the next day.

Three days ago, on the sixth anniversary of the Boston Massacre, Howe ordered twenty-

four hundred men to embark on transports and drop down to Castle William, from which point they would land at midnight under the protection of a bombardment from the warships and the batteries on Boston Neck. The landings were scheduled to be made at high tide along the beach at the base of Dorchester Heights. Under a heavy bombardment from warships and the batteries on Boston Neck, the British assault forces would storm the American fortifications.

Meanwhile, Washington ordered two thousand new troops to join the three thousand men working steadily on the rapidly growing fortifications on Dorchester Heights. Across the Charles River at Sewell's Point and Phipp's Farm, four thousand assault troops of General Israel Putnam were nervously awaiting the signal to cross. The signal would come at the moment the British regulars landed in the darkness at the foot of the hill on Dorchester Peninsula. The opening cannon fire from the American redoubts was to be the signal for the brigades of Generals Green and Sullivan to move out in their boats to storm Boston as the British were occupied by assaulting the fortifications of Dorchester Heights.

At 8:00 p.m. the British troops, numbering thirty-five hundred, were ready to embark on the barges. The sailors strained to hold the plunging boats against the pilings and enable the troops to disembark. The barges scheduled to land the regulars along the beaches a half mile away were pitching and tossing like a herd of wild horses.

Atop Dorchester Heights

the American troops were ready. Guns loaded with canisters of grapeshot were trained on the beaches, and other guns were aimed offshore, loaded with solid shot to destroy the barges that would soon appear laden with soldiers. As the wind lashed the men behind the parapets, they covered themselves with blankets and sheets of canvas. By 11:00 p.m. heavy gusts of rain were driving across the harbor from the southeast, and the winds soon rose to hurricane force. The newly dug trenches atop Dorchester Heights began to fill with water.

The Americans of Putnam's assault force, riding in barges lashed together along the Charles River near Sewell's Point, scrambled ashore to avoid being crushed or swamped by the lurching, pitching, flat-bottomed craft. The storm was one the worst to hit New England in over twenty years.

Just before midnight, Howe called off the assault. It was obvious his men would never survive the crossing, even if he were able to embark them.

In the colonial camp, General Putnam's assault force was taken ashore, and the boats were moved upriver to protect them from the surging waves. William Heath believes the storm had been sent by God to prevent the Americans from embarking on a foolhardy assault on Boston Common.

Source: Red Dawn at Lexington, by Louis Birnbaum, Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986

Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

George Washington's War, by Robert Leckie, HarperCollins, 1992

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday March 21, 1776

BOSTON LIBERATED!

Boston, Mass.— Yesterday the regiments of Colonels Whitcomb, Phinney, and Hutchinson marched into Boston with their drums and fifes throbbing. As they swept through the narrow streets, with General Washington and some of his officers at their head, the men noticed that the inhabitants were reluctant to come out of their houses, but watched from behind their windows. Dr. Thatcher, among the marching men, described the Bostonians as happy but not free from a “melancholy gloom,” which they seemed to have acquired during the British occupation.

Today, however, hundreds of Boston refugees who had been living outside the city flooded into Boston. Friends and relatives who had not seen each other for many months were reunited in emotional scenes.

On Saint Patrick’s Day, Sunday, March 17, at 4:00 a.m. soldiers and officers of the British army not already on board ship were lined up along Boston’s wharves ready to evacuate Boston and the Massachusetts Bay colony.

At 9:00 a.m. the garrison of Bunker Hill marched down the now-famous slope and through the ruined streets of Charlestown. On the ferry landing they took their places in barges that were rowed by soldiers assigned to the duty by their colonels. The long line of barges was pulled past North Battery to their regimental transports. Meanwhile, other boats left the wharves of Boston for King’s Row Chan-

nel to bring the rear guard of grenadiers and light infantry from Boston Neck.

The decision to evacuate Boston struck the Loyalists like a lightning bolt. They were utterly unprepared for the total loss of everything they believed in or possessed. In consideration of the plight of the Loyalists, Sir William Howe did his utmost to enable them to take as many of their possessions as they could. The shortage of transports, however, forced him to make agonizing decisions.

As the British withdrew, the Americans quickly moved to occupy Boston. General Ward, followed by Colonel Learned and his 386-man regiment, crossed Boston Neck and entered the city by the causeway that led to Orange Street.

During the fighting, Boston had not been injured as much as many who fled had feared. Dr. John Warren, brother of the slain Dr. Joseph Warren, entered Boston within two hours after the British left.

John Hancock’s palatial home had not been damaged; even the family pictures on the walls were untouched. The fact that the house had served as General Clinton’s headquarters probably contributed to its preservation.

However, many public buildings had been treated brutally. Old South Meeting had been used as a riding school because of its past association as the seat of Whig activities. The British had cut its hand-carved pews and silk furniture to pieces. The handsome floor



was covered with dirt and gravel several feet thick to permit horses to jump a bar at full gallop. A stove set up in winter to heat the massive structure had been fueled with many books and manuscripts from the fine library.

The Old North Meeting, built in 1677 and used by Paul Revere to signal his friends in Charlestown during his famous ride, had been demolished for fuel on January 16, 1776, by order of General Howe. Episcopal churches such as Christ Church on Salem Street, where British officers and men worshiped, were undamaged and well cared for. Most of their clergy, however, had left for Halifax with General Howe.

Dr. Samuel Cooper returned to Boston on March 19 and found his own home a shambles, with all of his beds, bed-sheets, blankets, and quilts gone. Hundreds of other houses had been pulled down for firewood.

Beautiful Boston Common had changed radically during

the past two years. The stately elms had been cut, and only the stumps remained to mark their former positions. Many level areas had been dug up to form redoubts with sod-covered parapets and trenches. Faneuil Hall had been converted to a theater, and both the Brattle Street Church and Hollis Street Church had been used as barracks.

A staggering amount of military equipment were abandoned by the British. They had left over a hundred cannon and mortars, hundreds of solid shot and shell, immense numbers of cartridges, great quantities of wheat, hay, oil, medicines, horses, and other military hardware. Nearly all the cannon were made serviceable, despite being spiked. American craftsmen were able to drill out the spikes and clear the vents, after which the cannon functioned as though new.

*Source: Red Dawn at Lexington,
by Louis Birnbaum,
Houghton Mifflin Co. 1986*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SUMMER 2005



NSSAR 115TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

Tim Harris, Delegate

July 1-7, 2005 Louisville, KY – The 115th Annual Congress of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Hyatt Regency Louisville.

Many delegates and guests enjoyed a choice of outings, including the musical *Bardstown*, *Stephen Foster Story* at an outdoor amphitheater, the Churchill Downs and Derby

Museum and/or the Frazier Museum of Historical Arms. On Saturday, delegates and guests were treated to a very bountiful welcome reception with music provided by the Louisville Dulcimer Society. A highlight for many was the color guard assembly and march to the Cathedral of the Assumption for a Sunday Memorial Service.

continued inside...



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



MINNESOTA SAR Salute



...continued from page 1

The business meetings of the NSSAR were held on Monday and Tuesday. Please refer to the upcoming issues of the SAR Magazine and/or the Headquarters Dispatch for details of resolutions passed and the list of new officers.

The Tuesday and Wednesday night banquets were the traditional formal affairs which introduced the new Vice President Generals and new officers, and the impressive ceremony of placing George Washington's signet ring by the outgoing President General on the hand of the incoming President General.

Youth Awards Luncheon

The Youth Awards Luncheon was commenced by Richard S. Austin, Master of Ceremonies on Monday July 4. Following the Invocation by our Chaplain General, The Reverend H. Leroy Stewart, we all enjoyed our luncheon. Luncheon started with a tossed green salad served with vinegarett dressing and assorted dinner rolls. Afterwards a generous portion of chicken served over mashed potatoes and gravy was provided with a side of julian carrots. Pecan pie rounded off our dinner.

President General Henry McCarl lead all assembled in singing Happy Birthday

MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT HONORED AS NSSAR EAGLE SCOUT CONTEST WINNER!



*2005-2006 National
Eagle Scout Chairman,
Charlie A. Newcomer,
Eagle Scout
John Rasmussen, and
T. Rex Legler,
2004-2005 Eagle Scout
Vice Chairman*

to the United States of America.

Five young men were honored at the youth recognition luncheon. Minnesota's John Rasmussen was honored for winning the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program at the national level. His father, and mother also attended the luncheon.

T. Rex Legler, Vice Chair of the National Eagle Scout Committee, presented John with an \$8,000 check.

The other youth winners were Rebecca Suzanne Grawl who won the Children of the American Revolution Award, JROTC Major Michael R. Calkins of Technology and Leadership Academy, Gilbert, AZ was the first place winner of the Outstanding JROTC

Cadet Award. H. Curtis Kuntz of Spring Grove, PA won the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest, and Carol Anne Parker of Louisiana was the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Award winner.

Following the awards ceremony thirteen people made up of the five youth awardees, six national contest leaders, President General McCarl and Secretary General Roland Downing had the honor of striking the Liberty Bell replica for the National Bell Ringing Ceremony.

Recognition Night

The Minuteman Award is the most prestigious award of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The class of 2005 included Henry N. McCarl, MA, Garrett F. Jackson, CA,

Andrew M. Johnson, DC, M. Joseph Hill, IL, Travis E. Spears, CA and J. David Sympton, KY.

Three rare occurrences happened during this years Minuteman Award ceremony. The current President General was awarded, Garrett Jackson was escorted by his father, Robert F. Jackson, class of 2001 and J. David Sympton was escorted by the Master of Ceremonies, William Gist, class of 1990.

Later Monday evening Minnesota was awarded an eagle trophy and certificate for sponsoring the national Eagle Scout winner.

The Next Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 24, 2005. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



2005 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



ROTC Awards

Silver ROTC Medals were presented at all seven senior ROTC units at colleges and universities throughout Minnesota. Presentations were made by Minnesota Society President Paul Theisen, Minnesota Society Past President David S. Bouschor, and ROTC staff.

Bronze ROTC Medals were presented at all 13 junior ROTC units, includ-

ing a new one at the General John Vessey Leadership Academy in St. Paul. Presentations were made by Minnesota Society Past President Timothy Harris, Minnesota Society Past President David Bouschor, Minnesota Society Board of managers member Larry Sisk, ROTC Staff Officers, and also by a representative of the Minnesota Society D.A.R.

ROTC medals are pre-

sented to cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

Medals were presented in 25 Minneapolis high schools and also to the Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets. At all the schools, the medal was presented by the staff. John Hallberg Jones presented the award at the Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets at their dinner at the Fort Snelling Officers Club. There were also representatives at that event from National Sojourners and the D.A.R.

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*.

We thank all those who assisted in the presentations

Flag Certificates

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

- Big Ten Supper Club – Arden Hills
- Gunderson Construction Inc. – White Bear Lake
- St. Croix Valley Hardwoods, Inc. – White Bear Lake
- Thermoform Plastics, Inc. White Bear Lake
- Trade Press and Lithographics, Inc. – White Bear Lake

NEW MNSSAR MEMBERS YEAR-TO-DATE:

NSSAR#	MNSSAR #	Name	Ancestor	Note
164481	1999	Bill B. Thomas	James Chitwood	
165017	2000	George William Miser	Henry Meiser	
165018	2001	Martin James Miser	Henry Meiser	(Son of George William Miser)
165019	2002	Michael George Miser	Henry Meiser	(Son of George William Miser)
176073	2003	Martin Johnson Miser	Henry Meiser	(Brother of George William Miser)
165142	2004	Chadborne William Whiting	Daniel Whiting	
128219	2005	Merle Ralph Price	Leonard Vandegrift	(Transferred From Oregon Society)
164978	Pending	Robert Leslie Smith III	Roger Edgerton	(Transferring From California Society)

Roger Edgerton is also the ancestor of Minnesota Society member #2, Albert Edgerton, the first president of the Minnesota Society, serving 1890-1895.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday, March 17, 1776

COLONIAL MARINES CAPTURE TWO BAHAMAS FORTS

Fort Montague and Fort Nassau taken without firing a shot.

Nassau, Bahamas – On Saturday, March 16, the stores were finally loaded and secured below decks. The Marines and seamen who took part in the landing were then embarked and the order given to prepare to sail.

284 new American marines, in a nearly-bloodless raid on Nassau, caught the British entirely by surprise and captured two forts, 88 cannon, 15 mortars and a huge quantity of military stores. It was the Marines' first-ever amphibious landing.

The cruise of Commodore Esek Hopkins started on February 17th. Free of the ice upon the Chesapeake at last, the fleet sailed forth from Delaware Bay into the Atlantic Ocean. Hopkins had learned that a store of munitions and arms existed in the English town of Nassau, on New Providence Island in the Bahamas and considered the stores worth taking. Hopkins sailed his fleet to a rendezvous off Great Abaco Island, North of New Providence, where they arrived on March 1st at Hole-In-The-Wall. There they fell upon two sloops owned by locals, loyal to the king, said ships being seized. Their masters were taken and forced to serve as pilots to guide the fleet through the local waters. With this beginning, Hopkins set forth plotting the raid of Nassau.

That intelligence and the

prizes that brought it became the heart of the plan of attack against New Providence which was worked out in a conference of officers held on board the flagship later that day. Nassau Harbor lies on the northern coast of New Providence, immediately above Nassau, and was shielded on the northeast by Hog Island, a long, narrow strip of land running east and west roughly parallel to the shore, and on the northwest by a group of small keys.

Hopkins planned to take the city by frontal assault, slipping his landing party—which consisted of some 270 sailors and marines—into the harbor hidden on board the captured sloops. It was hoped that the American troops would not be detected until they began to dash ashore to assault Fort Nassau, which protected the harbor and the western approaches to the city. Success in this endeavor would enable the fleet to enter the harbor while the fort's guns, then in American hands, held the town at bay.

The marines and sailors embarked in the two prizes on the evening of March 2 and headed for New Providence, hoping to arrive at daybreak. While following the sloops, the fleet attempted to remain out of sight until the landing force had secured the fort. Andrew Doria—popularly referred to as “the Black Brig”—outdistanced her consorts and found it necessary to

lay-to until the other American warships caught up.

As the troop-carrying sloops headed into the harbor, Fort Nassau's guns opened fire. The shot fell far short but clearly demonstrated that the American fleet had been detected and that its intentions had been surmised. Hopkins recalled his ships.

During another conference of officers on board Alfred, Hopkins decided to land his troops some two miles down the coast from Fort Montague, which protected the eastern approaches to Nassau. The fleet rounded the eastern extremity of Hog Island and proceeded to Hanover Sound, where most of the ships anchored. The prize sloops, covered by Wasp and Providence continued on toward the landing point. The marines and sailors finally went ashore on March 3 and marched to Fort Montague, whose garrison surrendered without offering any real resistance.

Hopkins sent the island's governor a message promising respect for persons and property if powder, ordnance, and

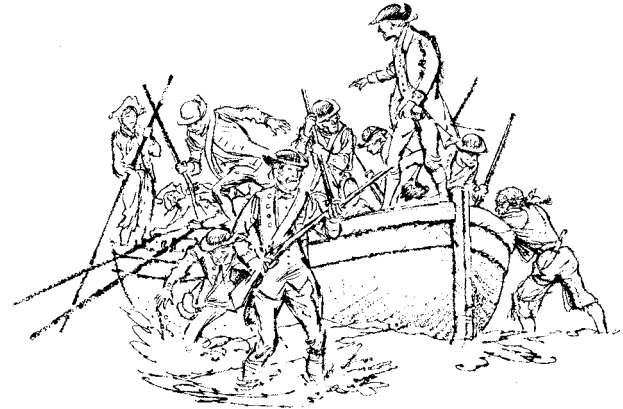
military stores were surrendered. Unfortunately, he failed to send any of his warships to guard the entrance to Nassau Harbor, and the governor took advantage of this oversight to ship most of the island's gunpowder to safety at St. Augustine, Fla. On March 4, the Americans took Fort Nassau and the town of Nassau. The fleet remained for almost a fortnight, dismantling the guns of the forts and loading the captured materials of war. So large was the take that several local ships had to be pressed into service to carry the materiel back to North America.

The American raid on the island of New Providence was a success on the whole, if not a brilliant one. The Continental squadron left one British Caribbean outpost in a precarious state and challenged British supremacy on the sea.

Source: Marines in the Revolution, by Charles R. Smith, History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Wash. D.C., 1975

<http://www.kiac-usa.com/Andrew-Doria.html>

<http://members.aol.com/tjoschultz/connavcru.html>



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2005

TROOPS MUST 'RESOLVE TO CONQUER OR DIE'

The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their houses and farms are to be pillaged and destroyed, and they consigned to a state of wretchedness from which no human efforts will probably deliver them.

The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unre-

lenting enemy leaves us no choice but a brave resistance or the most abject submission; this is all we can expect. We have therefore to resolve to conquer or die: Our own country's honor, all call upon us for a vigorous and manly exertion, and if we now shamefully fail, we shall become infamous to the whole world.

Let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the cause and the aid of the supreme being, in whose hands victory is, to animate and encourage us to great and noble

actions. The eyes of all our countrymen are now upon us, and we shall have their blessings and praises if happily we are the instruments of saving them from the tyranny meditated against them. Let us therefore animate and encourage each other, and show the whole world that a freeman contending for liberty on his own ground is superior to any slavish mercenary on Earth.

*George Washington, August 27, 1776.
Speech to his troops.*

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M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



DR. ANGUS MACDONALD SPEAKS AT ANNUAL CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and MNSSAR at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 24, 2005. MNSSAR President Paul Kent Theisen opened with greetings. He led a group of over 30 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the SAR Pledge. Michael Scott Swisher gave an eloquent invocation.

Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones announced that we obtained eight new members during 2005. Two were in attendance. Bill Thomas and a recent transferred member from California, Robert Leslie Smith, III, received their membership certificates and rosettes. John Jones then announced that long time member, Ben Byers of Duluth passed away during 2005. A supplemental certificate was awarded to Bob Kale and fifth, sixth, and seventh supplemental certificates were given to Marvin Stonecipher.

Tim Harris reported on his attendance at the 115th NSSAR Congress reporting on the good fortune of



hosting the National Eagle Scout Scholarship awarded to, John Rasmussen. Afterwards John Jones reported that the MNSSAR obtained a \$1,000 grant from Walmart with will be used to defray expenses for the Eagle Scout program.

We were offered a choice of three entrees: Beef Stroganoff served on a generous amount of noodles and a dollop of cream cheese; Lemon Chicken or Grilled Salmon both served with asparagus and a lime twist. For desert we were treated to a lemon parfait, which had a pecan base, a layer of custard, and a layer of lemon filling served with a dollop of whipped cream and sprinkled with chopped walnuts.

After luncheon Michael Scott Swisher, President of the Minnesota SR introduced today's speaker, Dr. Angus MacDonald, Publisher of the St. Croix Review.

Dr. MacDonald is a native of Australia and emigrated to the United States following World War II. He received his Doctorate of Philosophy at Columbia University. He was a Minister of the Congregational Church in Bayport, WI. For the past 38 years he published a small magazine called the St. Croix Review.

Dr. MacDonald read an editorial he wrote for his publication entitled "Hamilton and Jefferson." In it he asserts that Hamil-

*Michael Scott Swisher,
President of the Minnesota
SR, our Guest Speaker,
Dr. Angus MacDonald and
MNSSAR President,
Paul Kent Theisen.*

ton was the greater of the two. He spoke of Hamilton's humble beginnings and how, during the Revolutionary War, George Washington and he realized that the country needed a central government which helped shape him as a federalist. Following the war Hamilton established the Bank of New York in an effort to make one country from many independent states. Most Americans thought banks evil, children of the devil, tools of merchants to rob the poor. This was the foreshadowing of Jefferson's later revulsion against all Hamilton's economic programs.

The Federalist paper, supervised and largely



written by Hamilton assisted by Madison and Jay, outlined an alternative to the inept Articles of Confederation. Hamilton wrote: *"If these states are not united under a federal government, they will infallibly have wars with each other and their divisions will subject them to all the mischiefs of foreign influence and intrigue."* Hamilton's hope was to elect representatives not of the leveling kind, for he was suspicious of demagogues who would flatter the people to conceal their despotism.

Jefferson and Hamilton were opposites. Hamilton, an illegitimate waif from St. Croix, a tiny island in the Caribbean, had no prospects save what came from intelligence, character, and energy. Jefferson, born to great wealth had little common sense with money. Notwithstanding his display of wealth, his dress was casual, almost sloppy, when he became part of the American government, a perfect show for a crafty man who had ambition—according to Hamilton.

The financial folly of Jefferson was not limited to his youth. He died bankrupt, squandering his inheritance.

The partisan bickering between Hamilton and Jefferson developed in the

first cabinet; reflecting their differing interests. The North was the home of commerce where the understanding of the Constitution presented by Hamilton united the people. They called themselves Federalists, cleverly suggesting their opponents did not believe the Constitution or the new country. Jefferson, Madison, and their supporters, were also clever, calling themselves Republicans, harking back to the ancient Roman republics, and suggesting Hamilton and his followers were not real republicans but monarchists.

Hamilton was the intellectual genius in the presidency of George Washington but Jefferson, *while Secretary of State*, attacked and undermined domestic and foreign policy.

Historians have argued about the comparative worth to our country between Hamilton and Jefferson. There is no question Jefferson has been a great blessing with his pen, but, even with his pen, he sometimes lacked judgment.

To end his thesis Dr. MacDonald states: "Washington is truly the father of the country but, after Washington, my vote goes to Hamilton as the greatest of the founding fathers."

MUSIC REVIEW...

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There is quite a waiting list to join the group. They perform some 650 times a year. These cuts are more of a "concert" nature.

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- Phone 518-585-2821; fax 518-585-2210
- Email fort@fort-ticonderoga.org

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12 cuts. Pre 1820 music. Combination fifes, bugles and drums. Lots and lots of bugles which may not have been around for the revolution. Light on drums. \$16.98

- www.militarymusic.com

NEXT MEETING:

The Minnesota SAR's annual General Meeting will be held at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave. Saint Paul on Saturday, January 14, 2006. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, June 29, 1776

SULLIVAN'S ISLAND SURVIVES BOMBARDMENT

Fort Moultrie holds: British fleet badly battered.

Charleston, SC – Early this morning was revealed the full extent of yesterday's battering Fort Moultrie had received: its embrasures were ragged, some guns awry, timbers were torn, and the parade was pocked with holes and scattered with debris. But only ten men were killed and twenty-four wounded of the three hundred and eighty officers and rank and file who had served in the fort yesterday.

To the south of Charleston harbor lay James Island, guarded by Fort Johnson. Across the harbor mouth is a sandbar and outside the sandbar, the perilous Five Fathom Hole. Inside the harbor on the mainland guarding Charleston are batteries at Haddrell's Point. To the north of the harbor is Sullivan's Island, with a formidable redoubt of palmetto logs, which should gain Colonel Moultrie's name. Farther north across a narrow strip of water called the Breach lay Long Island, unoccupied and undefended.

Yesterday, the bomb ketch, *Thunder*, began the British fleet's attack by hurling shells at the fort. The rest of Admiral Sir Peter Parker's fleet sailed to battle stations. Close inshore of the fort were *Active*, 28 guns; Parker's flagship *Bristol*, 50; *Experiment*, 50; and *Solebay*, 28. Stretched farther offshore eastward were *Actaeon*, 28; *Sphynx*, 20; *Syren*, 28; *Thunder*, and the

armed ship *Friendship* with 28 guns.

The British were highly confident. The wind was right, it was a clear day, and the fort seemed to be answering weakly. Then *Thunder* realized that her bombs were falling short. Rather than come in closer and perhaps foul the other ships, she increased the powder charges in her mortars. The first supercharged shots broke the mortar beds, and *Thunder* was of no further use.

Now the American guns were replying with a slow and awful accuracy. *Bristol's* cable was shot away. She lay end on to the fort and was raked horribly. Twice her quarterdeck was cleared of every person except Parker, and Sir Peter, to his lasting mortification, had the seat of his trousers shot off and his behind singed. *Experiment* suffered just as badly.

Within the fort, sweat-drenched Americans were scorched by a hot southern sun and sometimes by the muzzle flashes from thirty cannon in continual blaze. Colonel Moultrie cheered his gunners on, while men with fire buckets full of grog darted along the fire platforms to refresh the thirsty. Gradually the artillery duel rose to such a frightful roar that even the veteran General Charles Lee, who had come over to the island, was astonished. Once a combination of three or four British



broadships struck the fort with such force that Moultrie feared another such salvo would shake it down.

When it came, a British ball disemboweled a Sergeant McDaniel. As he lay dying he gasped: "*Fight on my brave boys, Don't let liberty expire with me today.*" His words here passed along the firing platforms, inspiring the men toiling away in the fierce heat, their blackened faces singed with powder. Then the fort's flag was shot away. British sailors could be heard cheering, while a great groan arose from the crowded shoreline of the surrounding islands and the mainland. Inside the redoubt, Sergeant William Jasper cried out to Moultrie: "Colonel! Don't let us fight without our flag!"

Jasper ran outside the fort; seized the flag; and then, fixing it on a sponge staff, set it upright again while British shot and shell crashed around him. A cheer arose from Charleston as the blue flag with its white crescent and the word "Liberty" whipped in the

breeze again.

Now three of the British second line of ships upped anchor and tried to move around the western end of the island. They wanted to batter the fort on its flank and bring their guns to bear on a plank bridge behind the island. All three ships ran aground. *Actaeon* and *Sphynx* fouled each other, *Sphynx* losing her bowsprit. Eventually, two ships worked free but *Actaeon* was immovable.

As night fell the jubilant Americans could hear their shots crashing into her, and eventually she was set afire.

Night also marked the end of the battle. At eleven o'clock, horrified at the carnage aboard their ships, mortified at having been so mauled by the tiny American fort, the British slipped their cables and stole off into the night.

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

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2006



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saint Paul, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at the Lexington Restaurant on January 14, 2006. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The formalities of the day were started by Hon. Paul Kent Theisen,

President of the Minnesota Society, who led the Pledge to the US flag and read the SAR Pledge. Compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Minneapolis Chapter and the Saint Paul Chapter conducted their business.

Continued inside...

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Minnesota Society SAR
Officers for 2006

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M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Hon. Paul Kent Theisen, who also serves as president of the Minneapolis Chapter. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 25 area high schools in 2005. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2006 program.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Minneapolis Public Library for the purchase of materials relating to the Revolutionary War era. The donation is to be made after the new library opens later this year. The NSSAR Magazine for the Minneapolis Public Library will be renewed for a period of three years in August 2006.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, James Fredrick Foster, called the meeting to order. Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that eleven of the twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2005. Eleven students were presented with medals the past May. Tim explained that a change in schools took place in 2005. Saint Bernard's requested they be dropped and Irondale High School was added. A

twelfth school never sent in a recipient name for the fourth consecutive year. Tim reported that letters will be mailed to twelve area high schools to begin the program for 2006.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2005. (See the Summer 2005 SAR Salute.)

Compatriot Robert Smith proposed that the Saint Paul Chapter form a committee to study ways and find solutions to encourage the various neighborhood walking tours to point out the historic McCloud-Edgerton House at 311 Walnut Street, Saint Paul. (See the adjoining article.)

Minnesota Society

The Trustees proposed that the 2005 interest of \$319.83 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$100.00, MN Genealogical Society \$30.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of MN \$40.00, MN Genealogical Journal \$24.50, NSSAR Library for MN Census Microfilms \$106.55.

Membership

Compatriot Jones reported that membership stood at 124, with 121 members of the MNSSAR and three dual members.

The median age of our members is 59; the median year of our membership is 1989 – 17 years.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Jones reported that the ROTC Program is in place for 2006. All 20 units in Minnesota were part of the program in 2005. A new unit is added for 2006, bringing the total to 21. A resolution was passed to commemorate Compatriot Robert Smith who is presenting copies of "Glory, Passion, and Principle", a book about women during the American Revolution, to the libraries at the JROTC units.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he has mailed 999 packets to new Eagle Scouts and received about fifteen entries for the contest. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting.

Board of Managers Meetings

The Minnesota Society Board of Managers was called into session. A proposal to accept life membership dues for life members of the National Society was discussed and passed. The Minnesota Society was once again called into session and the proposal was presented to the entire membership.

Upon motion, it was passed unanimously. It was then moved and passed to adopt the formula used by NSSAR for the National Life Membership program as the formula basis for the Minnesota Society program. (See the adjoining article for the By-Law Amendments.)

The Minnesota Society again recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters convened to act on similar proposals. Due to notice requirements for the chapters, the final action on their amendments will be at the luncheon on 18 February 2006.

As the officers of the society and chapters were all continuing in office, no installation was necessary.

The SAR Recessional was read and the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, February 18, 2006. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. Kate Nichols, Postal Inspector, USPS will be our guest speaker.



BY-LAW AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY MNSSAR

The following By-Law amendment was proposed and adopted at the MNSSAR annual business meeting:

Section 3 Dues:

Amend in part to read "Any member whose dues are not paid by the January 20th following the January 1st on which they were due, shall be stricken from the membership rolls per National Society policy."

Add under Section 3

Dues:

Subsection A: If a Compatriot has purchased a Life Membership in the National Society, he shall be eligible to purchase a Life Membership in the Minnesota Society. The cost of a Life Membership in the Minnesota Society shall be determined by resolution of the Board of

Managers or of the Society at any regular meeting of the Board of Managers or the Society, or any special meeting called for that purpose. Upon said purchase, the member is relieved of all Minnesota Society dues in perpetuity. The Life Membership Fund will be held as a permanent fund, with the principal intact, and all income generated to accrue to the General Fund of the Minnesota Society.

Subsection B: The Minnesota Society will collect the dues of any chartered local chapters with the annual collection of state and national dues, as billed in the fall of the year, and due on 1 January. Local chapter dues will be remitted quarterly to the Chapters.

Donations Sought to Provide SAR Magazine Subscriptions to Minnesota ROTC Units

Compatriot Robert Smith suggested that the Minnesota Society present SAR Magazine subscriptions to the ROTC units. We ask that members make donations to cover the cost. There are 14 JROTC units and seven ROTC units in Minnesota. The cost of one subscription to the SAR Magazine is \$10 per year. Please remit donations to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

MCCLLOUD-EDGERTON TOUR NOTATION PROPOSED

Compatriot Robert Leslie Smith, III proposed that the Saint Paul Chapter study ways and find solutions to encourage the various neighborhood walking tours to point out the historic McCloud-Edgerton House at 311 Walnut Street, Saint Paul. The structure is located in Irvine Park next to the Alexander Ramsey house. Smith would like to see the home readied whereby the tour planners could add it to their books as a structure to be noted.

Compatriot Smith's Revolutionary War ancestor is Roger Edgerton whose descendant, Albert Edgerton is Minnesota Society SAR's member #2. Albert Edgerton owned the property at one time.

History of the Property

In 1867 real estate agent John McCloud and his wife, Laura, bought property at 240 Fort Road. Sometime during the McClouds' ownership of the land, between 1867 and 1870, they built this side-by-side duplex there as rental property.

Albert Edgerton, a lawyer by profession, and his family owned and occupied the house from 1872 to 1896. The Edgertons' son, Erastus, performed the job of bathman

for a treatment center nearby. Albert's children kept the house until 1909.

In 1916 Steven and Barbara Hill, who operated a plumbing and heating business, moved the structure from Fort Road to Walnut Street. They took up residence in 1921 and lived there more than twenty years.

Stanchie and Mae Degiovanni bought the house in 1946. When they moved in 1960, they sold the duplex to their tenants Eleanor and Patrick Gavin.

Another expression of transitional architecture, this building's broad eave line suggests the Greek Revival style without the gables. The bay, transom and low hip roof are Italianate features. The original four-over-four windows are extremely deep to bring in as much light as possible.

One of Smith's goals for the Chapter is to have the various tours accept the house and provide a line of information in addition to the architectural data to tour participants that this home was formerly owned by Judge Albert Edgerton who was principal in founding the Minnesota Society SAR and was also instrumental in the formation of the DAR in Minnesota.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



2006 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve a second term for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Vice President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
Registrar Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
Chancellor Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
Surgeon Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Stephen John Ernest
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Page Gregory Whitmore	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Robert James Curtiss	Robert Earl Dingley
Peter Arrott Dixon	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
John Charles Sassaman	Larry Wray Sisk
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	Rehn Douglas Smith
David Douglas Stevenson	Michael LaLond West

2 open positions

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2007 John Hallberg Jones, PP
Trustee ending January 2008 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
Trustee ending January 2009 Michael Scott Swisher, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Dalls, Texas in July 2006:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Vice President Larry Allan Lundblad
Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
Tracy Ashley Crocker
Timothy Charles Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church
William Leslie DeCoursey
Arthur Louis Finnell
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Robert Bicknell Mirick
David Douglas Stevenson
Michael Scott Swisher
Larry Larson Warren
Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....James Fredrick Foster
Vice President Ronald Edward McRoberts
Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher
Board of Managers.....Stephen John Ernest
William Leslie DeCoursey
Marvin Eugene Stonecipher

ARE YOUR DUES STILL DUE?

As of January 08, 2006 only ten members still owe 2006 dues. Don't risk being dropped from membership. If you still owe 2006 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, June 29, 1776

TRAITOR EXECUTED IN NEW YORK CITY

Bungled plot to kidnap George Washington and assassinate his chief officers foiled.

New York, NY – Shortly before noon yesterday, Thomas Hickey, a member of Washington's personal guards, was executed. The morning after Hickey's sentence was confirmed, a gallows was erected, and Washington ordered that all men who weren't on duty be marched out to watch the hanging. Altogether, twenty thousand people appeared. Washington said, "I am hopeful this experience will produce many salutary consequences and deter others from entering into like traitorous practices."

The conspirators went into action shortly after Washington arrived in New York from Cambridge, Mass., on April 13 and began making plans to defend the city from the British, whose ships are expected during the summer. The Patriot hold on the area is precarious, because Loyalist sentiment is strong, especially in the city and in Queens County. The plotters were laying the groundwork for an insurrection that would help the British take control of New York. The scheme developed when Tories in New York attempted to bribe American soldiers to switch sides.

The plot began with the colonial governor of New York, William Tryon, who so feared the city's Patriot rabble

that he took up residence on a British merchant ship, the *Duchess of Gordon*, anchored in the harbor. Tryon was bribing British sympathizers in New York City and the Continental Army with cash, provisions, and promises of land if they support the Crown when the British fleet arrives to deal with Washington and his army.

He received at least nominal assistance from New York City Mayor David Matthews, whom he met while trying to arrange safe passage for the peace commissioner Lord Drummond. It is unknown how many people were truly committed to the plot, but one conspirator claimed there was a "corps" of 700 men ready to take up arms for the British, amounting to about 10 percent of the Continental forces in New York. That number is more than likely inflated, but it is known there were conspirators in Washington's personal guards.

The leaders of the Continental Army discovered the scheme when Isaac Ketchum, a soldier jailed on charges of attempted counterfeiting, informed the authorities that two of his fellow prisoners, Thomas Hickey and Michael Lynch, stated they belonged to a group that was receiving money from the British to rise up when the fleet arrived. After Ketchum's information

made its way through the ranks, the plot collapsed on itself. Many of those caught told all they knew to save themselves from punishment, as it seems Private Fraga did from Mason's letter. The letter states that a certain Lara Fraga, a private in Washington's personal guards, "now under confinement says there is a number of men in Capt. Hamilton's Company who have enlisted in the minesterall troops which he will point out if he can see the company." The letter corroborates the testimony of Mayor Matthews given after he was arrested for his part in the plot. In a hearing before a committee of the Provisional Congress of New York, Matthews said part of the plan included seizing a battery of artillery when the British fleet attacked.

With Hickey's revelations fresh in the air, a contingent of militia from Jamaica, Queens, was ordered to round up a list of Loyalist sympathizers hiding out in the woods, brush and swamps of Hempstead. At the top of the list was Richard Hewlett.

The militiamen marched along the trail. On June 22, they came to the home of one of the Loyalists, Isaac Denton. But he, like many of the Loyalists they were looking for, had disappeared. The militia went to Hempstead swamp to



William Tryon, Tory Governor of New York

take up some Tories who were hiding there. They made some resistance, and fired on the soldiers in the woods. The soldiers returned the fire, and wounded George, son of William Smith. They then called for quarter. The soldiers took six prisoners and put them in Jamaica jail.

Ultimately no batteries were seized and George Washington was never in any danger. The affair proved to be badly planned, ill-conceived and awkwardly executed.

Source: Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

http://www.gilderlehrman.org/collection/docs_archive_mutiny.html

<http://www.newsday.com/community/guide/lihistory/ny-history-hs402a,0,6795561.print.story?coll=ny-lihistory-navigation>

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, July 13, 1776



HMS PHOENIX AND ROSE SAIL HUDSON RIVER UNABATED WITH IMPUNITY

New York, NY – Yesterday afternoon, Admiral Richard Howe seized the opportunity of a south wind and flowing tide and ordered two frigates, HMS Phoenix with forty guns and HMS Rose with twenty, to force a passage up the Hudson River. As the frigates got under way with three tenders, the American army flew to arms and opened fire with every gun that would bear. The British ships were hit many times but suffered few casualties and no major damage. As the frigates came abreast of Governor's Island and Paulus Hook, they returned fire in crashing broadsides. Some gunners on Paulus Hook abandoned their positions and ran for cover. Others worked their guns so frantically that they neglected their swabs, and one gun blew up, with a heavy loss of American life.

The ships continued north past lower Manhattan, and Alexander Hamilton's guns opened fire from the Battery. The frigates replied, and the British round shot went flying through New York and the village of Greenwich. Three cannonballs entered Captain Clarke's house at Greenwich and one lodged at the head of Miss Clarke's bed in her chamber. A panic spread through the town, especially among women, children and the infirm. General Washington stated "When the men-of-war passed up the river the shrieks and cries of these poor creatures running every way with their children, was truly

distressing, and I fear will have an unhappy effect on the ears and minds of our young and inexperienced soldiery."

The action continued for two hours, until the ships sailed beyond American fortifications and anchored defiantly in the Tappan Zee. There they threatened to stop traffic on the river and to start a Loyalist rising in the Hudson Valley. The Americans tried to destroy them with fire-ships, but they sailed south again past the American defenses with impunity. One British seaman climbed a masthead and remained there through the action, openly displaying his contempt for the rebels. The Royal Navy had demonstrated its complete control of the waters around New York. The Americans were shocked by the weakness of their defense at one of its strongest points.

The event was also a reminder that British forces possessed the initiative and could attack where they pleased.

At the beginning of 1776, Congress and the commander-in-chief had assigned the defense of New York to General Charles Lee, the most experienced senior officer in the Continental army. Said Lee, "What to do with the city, I own puzzles me, it is so encircled with deep navigable water, that whoever commands the sea must command the town. Lee studied the problem at length, as did a committee of the Continental Congress, and New York's Committee of

Safety. All concluded that to fortify the town against shipping was impossible.

In April, George Washington had marched his troops down from Boston to meet the expected threat. By recruiting hard, he had scraped together 28,500 men, nineteen thousand fit for duty.

On June 29, 1776, a quiet summer Saturday in New York, Private Daniel McCurtin of the Maryland Line had just received his discharge from the army and was sitting in a house overlooking the lower harbor, getting ready to go home. About nine o'clock in the morning he looked out and admired the view across an empty sheet of water. A few minutes later he looked again. To his amazement, the bay had filled with ships. "I could not believe my eyes. Keeping my eyes fixed at the very spot, judge you of my surprise when in about ten minutes, the whole bay was full of shipping as ever it could be. I declare that I thought all London was afloat."

In the van were big British ships of the line, cleared for action with red gunports open, batteries run out, and huge white battle ensigns streaming in the breeze. Behind them came transports crowded with troops. They advanced at a majestic pace, as if nothing in the world could stop them. Inside Sandy Hook they dropped anchor.

For two days the ships continued to arrive, more than a hundred full-rigged vessels and a swarm of smaller craft,

all gathering inside the Hook. Then on July 1st, bright signal flags blossomed from the British halyards, and gray canvas billowed beneath black yardarms. The great armada sailed slowly up the bay, anchored near the low coast of Long Island, and made preparations for landing. American troops rushed from New York City to Brooklyn. When the defenders were in place the British ships moved again, this time very quickly across the harbor to Staten Island. Three nimble British frigates slipped inshore, and a flotilla of small boats splashed into the water. Thousands of British Regulars swarmed ashore with scarcely a shot fired. It was a brilliant maneuver. The Royal Navy and British army had carried out a complex amphibious operation with harmony and high professional skill. The Americans were made to feel like helpless amateurs in the complex art of modern war. They brought 23,000 British Regulars plus ten thousand German troops. Another 13,000 troops were sent to Canada. Supporting these troops were seventy British warships in American waters, half the fighting strength of the Royal Navy. It was the largest projection of seaborne power ever attempted by a European state.

*Source: Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, Inc.*

*Rebels and Redcoats, by George F.
Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin,
Da Capo Press Inc.*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2006

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2006 SPRING TRUSTEES MEETING

Roland G. Downing, President General

Trustees, committeemen, state and chapter officers and first time attendees have made the Spring 2006 Leadership Meeting one to remember. Membership attendance was up by 10% compared to spring 2005. The leadership seminars,

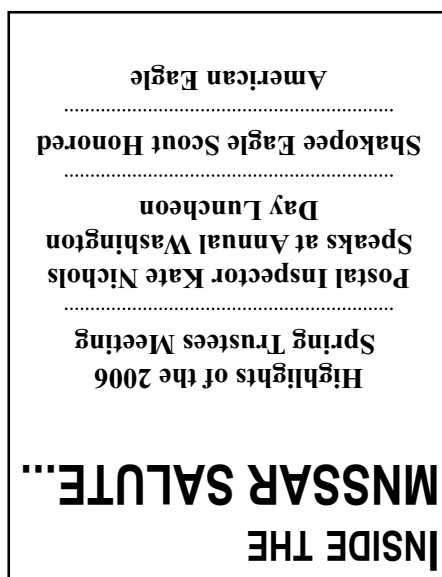
headquarters tours, hospitality for first time attendees and the streamlined committee reports session seemed to work well. Compatriot Bill Allerton and author Gary Gregg gave outstanding speeches at the banquets. Twelve year old Elise Hagen enthralled us at the piano Friday night, and

the Celtic music Saturday night was sensational.

Business Highlights:

- The SAR Foundation voted to hire a Director of Development.
- The anonymous challenge grant was met and exceeding before the March 1 deadline. The Center Building Fund realized \$58,000

total from this event. The Center is now about half way to a possible start of construction condition of 3 million dollars in the bank and 3 million dollars in pledges. With your help in spreading the good news and contacting all compatriots, we could start construction in 2007.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





POSTAL INSPECTOR KATE NICHOLS SPEAKS AT ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

On Saturday February 18, eighteen members of the Minnesota Society, along with sixteen spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution of the State of Minnesota, gathered for the annual Washington Day Luncheon at the Lexington Restaurant in Saint Paul.

Minnesota SAR President, Paul Kent Theisen, opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, Our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, gave an eloquent invocation.

A delicious meal with a choice of entree – Chicken Pot Pie, Rigatoni Bolognese, or Walleye Alman-dine – finishing with a lemon torte was served.

After luncheon the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters convened to conduct business. The two chapters approved a constitutional amendment to allow life membership dues just as the Minnesota and National Societies do. The Life Membership fee was set using the factor multiple in use by the NSSAR and MNSSAR.

Tim Harris, Chairman of the MNSSAR Eagle Scout Committee, then presented

this year's Minnesota Eagle Scout, Paul Banwart, with a trophy for his winning application and essay for the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

Afterwards Compatriot Jones introduced Myrna Strand from the Twin Cities Postal Customer Advisory Council. She spoke briefly about the important work they do to enhance quality of the postal service. She handed out their newsletter "Beyond the Stamp" to our membership. She then introduced today's speaker.

Kate Nichols has been a Postal Inspector with the Saint Paul Field Office for over three years. She gave a very informative delivery about postal scams and schemes, mail fraud and identity theft.

Nichols is part of the law enforcement branch of the postal service founded in 1772 by Benjamin Franklin. If fraud is implemented by mail the investigation would fall under her jurisdiction. Nichols presented some of the more common schemes such as:

- Free Prizes/Vacation which ask for a processing fee or your social security number.



*Mary Strand,
Twin Cities
USPS
Customer
Advisory
Council
Member &
Kate Nichols,
Postal
Inspector,
U.S. Postal
Service*

- Foreign Lottery
- Chain Letters/Pyramid Schemes
- Re-shipping Fraud which transferrers purchases made with stolen credit cards to someone in the U.S. who then ships it to the crooks.

- Nigerian Fraud which asks recipients to send money to free money to collect an inheritance.

Some of the schemes are against the law to participate in and dupe the recipients into illegal activity. Generally older citizens are targeted. Once you're victimized your name and address are sold and shared with other schemers. Some advice to avoid being victimized include:

- If it sounds too good to be true – it probably is.
- Check out organization
- If solicitation claims to be legal it probably isn't.

- Don't provide credit card or social security number.
- Assist older relatives to be sure its not a scam.
- Do not carry social security card in your wallet.
- Go to www.lookstogood-tobetru.com for additional information

If you feel that you are a victim of fraud or identity theft her advice is to notify law enforcement immediately. She also advises everyone to get a copy of their credit report annually.

Paul Kent Theisen presented Nichols with a certificate of appreciation.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, September 23, 2005. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



SHAKOPEE EAGLE SCOUT HONORED

Paul Jacob Parker Banwart, of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Paul, from Shakopee, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. His mother and father were also in attendance. John read his patriotic essay entitled *John Adams: Patriot and a Father of America* which is presented below.

Paul's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay

were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners for an \$8,000 scholarship. \$4,000 and \$2,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen. This year's national winner was Michael W. Grogan, the Missouri Society candidate. The first and second runners-up were Adam F. Botts from Colorado and Joseph T. Nagle from Pennsylvania.

Paul's brother Benjamin won the Minnesota Spreading Wings trophy twice and went on to win the \$8,000 scholarship in 2002.

John Adams: Patriot and a Father of America

By Paul Jacob Parker Banwart – 2005 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

John Adams was born in Braintree, Massachusetts (now Quincy) on October 30, 1735. At an early age, he became fascinated with politics and soon made this his life long love. At the age of 16, he went to Harvard. Upon graduating, he became a teacher. Later he pursued a career as a lawyer and became more intrigued with politics. Eventually he ran for the Massachusetts legislature and was elected. This began his political career. John Adams always fought for the American people: striving for peace and posterity. These values are still present in today's society.

As tensions grew between the United States and England, a revolution became inevitable. Soon, a committee in the First Continental Congress was made to declare independence from England. John Adams was

among the committee. His role was to present the declaration of Independence to the congress. The manner in which he gave the Declaration of Independence to the congress essentially decided whether the colonies would separate from England. After the Declaration of Independence was signed, the revolution for independence became an all-out war through-out the colonies. His dream of having a democracy was starting to fade as the colonies did not fair well against the British and their mercenary troops in the early part of the war. If America lost, all of his efforts and the efforts of all fighters for democracy could be lost for ever. So Adams became a diplomat; he rallied the support of other countries like Holland and France to collect enough money to fund the war. At the same time, he

along with Benjamin Franklin and John Jay, was able to persuade the French to fight the war with America. The French forces proved to be vital at the decisive victory at Yorktown and to the success of the Revolutionary War.

After the Revolutionary War, he worked diligently in the 2nd Continental Congress to ensure the development of our government. He was on the committee that wrote the Constitution of the United States of America. Many of his ideas and quotes from a book Adams wrote about constitutions were used and guided the framers of the constitution. In addition, John Adams served as a diplomat and as the vice-president under George Washington.

In 1797, Adams was elected as our 2nd President, the only Federalist to this post.

During his presidency, he worked hard to keep America from falling apart. Adams single-handedly wrote a peace plan that stopped the French from fighting a war with America. This plan is still the basis of what we still use to govern. John Adams, in my opinion was instrumental in the creation of the United States of America. When I think of John Adams, I do not think of a short, sometimes stubborn, stocky white-haired man, I think of his morals and beliefs which have made our beloved country what it is today, a world leader for democracy. His pride and determination helped us to gain enough courage to win the Revolutionary War and lay the foundation that governs the United States today.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE GREETED BY TROOPS WITH ENTHUSIASM

Equestrian statue of King George III
toppled by jubilant crowd.

New York, NY – Yesterday General George Washington ordered that “the several brigades are to be drawn up this evening in their respective parades, at six o’clock, when the declaration of Congress, showing the grounds and reasons of this measure is to be read with an audible voice.”

Washington’s aide Colonel Samuel Blachley Webb stated, “The Declaration was read at the head of each brigade, and was received with three Huzzas by the troops – every one seemed highly pleased that we were separated from a King who was endeavoring to enslave his once loyal subjects. God grant us success in this our new character.”

Washington remarked, “The general hopes that this act with fidelity and courage, knowing that now the peace and safety of his country depend, under God, solely on the success of our arms, and that he is now in the service of a State possessed of sufficient power

to reward his merit, and advance him to the highest honors of a free country.”

Washington’s Continentals roared three cheers. Almost forgotten was the great fleet in the harbor – the gathering danger. Dismissed, many of the soldiers made their way toward the street called Broadway. On the iron fenced Bowling Green near the Battery stood a gilt equestrian statue of George III. The king had been portrayed as a Roman emperor and cast one-third larger than life from two tons of lead covered with gold leaf. Since its pedestal stood fifteen feet high, the local Sons of Liberty tied ropes to the king and his horse and pulled the statue to the ground. The fall knocked off the king’s head. The crowd carried the body through the town, among many spectators, fifes and drums all the way, beating the rogues march.

Lieutenant Isaac Bangs of the Massachusetts militia stated, “In it were four thousand pounds of lead and a



man undertook to take ten ounces of gold from the superficies, as both man and horse were covered with gold leaf. The lead we hear is to be run up into musket balls for the use of the Yankees, when it is hoped that the emanations from the leaden George will make... deep impressions in the bodies of some of his red-coated and Tory subjects...”

George Washington was appalled. He issued an order approving “zeal in the public cause” but reprimanded the entire army for “want of order.” Washington ordered that “in future these things shall be avoided by the Soldiery, and left to be executed by proper authority.”

With the July 9th reading of the Declaration of Independence to the American troops, it was no longer a case of the colonists’ fighting for their rights as Englishmen. Now, they were fighting for independence from England and liberty to choose their own form of government. The great patriotic army had received its mandate.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Washington's Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, Inc.

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, July 5, 1776



AMERICA DECLARES INDEPENDENCE!

Philadelphia, Penn. – On the Fourth of July, all the delegates to Congress who were present except John Dickinson approved the Declaration of Independence. John Hancock, as president of the Congress, signed first – with a great bold flourish that will make his name synonymous with the flamboyant signature, declaring: “There, I guess King George will be able to read that!”

One by one, the others signed; radicals, moderates and conservatives, all united in their determination to be “Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown.”

On June 7, 1776 Richard Henry Lee took the floor to offer the resolution many delegates had been dreading. “That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.”

Lee went on to more vital matters: America should form foreign alliances, and the Congress should prepare a plan of confederation for the colonies. The Congress delayed debate on Lee’s resolutions until the following morning. Then, acting as a committee of the whole, the members began to debate

whether or not America should declare herself free.

The following Monday, June 10 Lee’s faction won approval for appointing committees that would spend the next three weeks preparing drafts on each point of Lee’s resolution. The next day Congress named those committees, drawing on different talents of its members and balancing each committee politically. Two of the choices, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, were almost inevitable. Roger Livingston of New York had enough votes to join the committee, even though he had argued against Lee’s resolutions. Roger Sherman of Connecticut was also chosen. The fifth member won his place through compromise. John Adams lobbied for Thomas Jefferson of Virginia to join the committee and was so persuasive that when the votes were counted Jefferson had received more than anyone else.

Jefferson was chosen to write the document. Jefferson did not intend the statement of independence to be original. He saw his assignment as setting down as clearly as possible the opinions commonly held by Americans and their Congress. The ideas he would be including had been in the air for many years, and he knew the arguments so well that he didn’t need books or pam-

phlets in front of him as he wrote.

Jefferson’s modesty was apparent when he took what he called a “rough draft” to Adams and Franklin for their criticisms and suggestions. Forty-eight changes were made, mostly by Franklin and a few by Jefferson himself.

Adams rose on the morning of July 1, 1776, confident that the vote on declaring the colonies “free and independent” that was to follow debate on Lee’s resolution would pass unanimously. But a canvass showed that there were still only nine colonies in which a majority of the delegates supported the measure. Maryland had swung toward it, but South Carolina had defected under pressure from Edward Rutledge. New York, its delegate claiming their instructions were to oppose independence, abstained. Pennsylvania was crucial for the unanimity so necessary for the powerful effect of a united front.

Speaking without notes, Adams went through the usual arguments. With the Congress sitting as the committee of the whole, a vote was called. Nine of the thirteen colonies endorsed independence, but with the understanding that the final vote should come the next day, the second of July. Before the session adjourned, however,

a dispatch from General Washington arrived, which reported that the British seemed prepared to attack the American positions in New York. That alarm swayed the voters John Adams had not reached. The next day, South Carolina swung behind the resolution, along with Delaware’s delegates. Caesar Rodney rode all night in the rain arriving in the afternoon of the second to put Delaware in the affirmative column. John Dickinson still opposed it, as did Robert Morris, but when these two agreed not to take their seats officially the next day, Pennsylvania would be in the affirmative, three votes to two.

On July 2, 1776, with no dissenting votes the Congress at Philadelphia voted that the American colonies were henceforth free and independent states.

There was still Jefferson’s declaration to approve. After two days of congressional debate and changes to the document the declaration of independence was adopted.

On July 4, 1776, independence was declared in language worthy of it.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

George Washington’s War by Robert Leckie, Harper Perennial, 1993

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

When in the exercise of human rights, it becomes necessary for one people to dispel the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. — We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. — And whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. — But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Tyranny, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world. — He has refused his assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inalienable to them and transmissible to their posterity. — He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. — He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of Invasion from without, and convulsions within. — He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Law for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. — He has created a multitude of new Offices, and sent swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. — He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislature. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil powers. — He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: — For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: — For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: — For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury: — For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an empire and yet independent of our Jurisdiction, for obstructing the Commerce between us and the Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: — For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with powers to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. — He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. — He has thrown into the most barbarous and cruel Slaves, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty perfectly contrary to the spirit of the Laws of England, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the execrable murderers of their parents and Brothers, or to fall themselves by their Hands. — He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of one part of the Colonies, the merciless and unprovoked war, whose known rule of warfare, is an unrelenting destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. — Nor have we been unwilling to attend to our British Brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have begged them by the ties of our common Kindred to disavow those usurpations, which would in every respect violate our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. — We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind; Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. — We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to lay War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor. —

John Hancock

Gov. & Brethren

Button Gwinnett,
Lynah Hall,
Geo. Walton.

J. M. Hooper
 Joseph Haves,
 6
 John D. Jones

Edward Rutledge

The Wynans, Jun^r
Thomas Lynch Jun^r
Arthur Middleton

Samuel Chace
to the Paris
Theat. Fran.
Chace, General of the Theatre

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th Jefferson
Wm Harrison
Jas Noyes
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Gustav Braxton

Robt Morris
Benjamin Franklin
Borg, & Linn & Son
John Martin

Geo. Clough
Jas. Smith
Geo. Taylor
James Watson
Geo. Tapp
Cassius Winney
John
Thompson

Geo Hayes
 Chas. Linnegulm
 Susan Lewis
 Lewis Morris

Rich. Stockton
 Geo. Washington
 Genl. Joseph Warren
 John Hancock
 Abner Clark

Josiah Bartlett
 Wm. Whipple
 Levi Adams
 John Adams
 Bart. Green Printer

George Gordon
 Stephen Hopkins
 William Ellery
 Roger Sherman
 John Huntington
 Roger Williams
 Oliver Wolcott
 John Adams

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2006



GOOD MEN WANTED!

Show Your Pride in the
Sons of the American Revolution
Form a MNSSAR Color Guard Today!

Free breakfast when you order your uniform.

See your recruiter today to earn a place where it
counts... In the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard!
Contact Compatriot Paul K. Theisen at 320/351-6221

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

.....

Bloomington Police Chief Speaks
at Constitution Day Luncheon

.....

New Members

.....

2006 MNSSAR

Medals & Awards Program

.....

American Eagle

.....

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, July 10, 1776

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE GREETED BY TROOPS WITH ENTHUSIASM

Equestrian statue of King George III
toppled by jubilant crowd.

New York, NY – Yesterday General George Washington ordered that “the several brigades are to be drawn up this evening in their respective parades, at six o’clock, when the declaration of Congress, showing the grounds and reasons of this measure is to be read with an audible voice.”

Washington’s aide Colonel Samuel Blachley Webb stated, “The Declaration was read at the head of each brigade, and was received with three Huzzas by the troops – every one seemed highly pleased that we were separated from a King who was endeavoring to enslave his once loyal subjects. God grant us success in this our new character.”

Washington remarked, “The general hopes that this act with fidelity and courage, knowing that now the peace and safety of his country depend, under God, solely on the success of our arms, and that he is now in the service of a State possessed of sufficient power

to reward his merit, and advance him to the highest honors of a free country.”

Washington’s Continentals roared three cheers. Almost forgotten was the great fleet in the harbor – the gathering danger. Dismissed, many of the soldiers made their way toward the street called Broadway. On the iron fenced Bowling Green near the Battery stood a gilt equestrian statue of George III. The king had been portrayed as a Roman emperor and cast one-third larger than life from two tons of lead covered with gold leaf. Since its pedestal stood fifteen feet high, the local Sons of Liberty tied ropes to the king and his horse and pulled the statue to the ground. The fall knocked off the king’s head. The crowd carried the body through the town, among many spectators, fifes and drums all the way, beating the rogues march.

Lieutenant Isaac Bangs of the Massachusetts militia stated, “In it were four thousand pounds of lead and a



man undertook to take ten ounces of gold from the superfluities, as both man and horse were covered with gold leaf. The lead we hear is to be run up into musket balls for the use of the Yankees, when it is hoped that the emanations from the leaden George will make... deep impressions in the bodies of some of his red-coated and Tory subjects...”

George Washington was appalled. He issued an order approving “zeal in the public cause” but reprimanded the entire army for “want of order.” Washington ordered that “in future these things shall be avoided by the soldiery, and left to be executed by proper authority.”

With the July 9th reading of the Declaration of Independence to the American troops, it was no longer a case of the colonists’ fighting for their rights as Englishmen. Now, they were fighting for independence from England and liberty to choose their own form of government. The great patriotic army had received its mandate.

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Washington's Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, Inc.

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2007

On Saturday, August 24, 1776, when Washington visited and inspected the interior defenses in Brooklyn, he exhorted the troops:

The enemy have now landed on Long Island, and the hour is fast approaching in which the honor and success of this army, and the safety of our bleeding country, will depend. Remember, officers and soldiers, that you are freemen, fighting for the blessings of liberty, and slavery will be your portion, if you do not acquit yourselves like

men. Remember how your courage and spirit have been despised and traduced by your cruel invaders, though they have found by dear experience at Boston, Charlestown, and other places, what a few brave men, contending in their own land, and in the best of causes can do against hirelings and mercenaries. ... Those who are distinguished for

their gallantry and good conduct may depend on being honorably noticed and suitably rewarded; and if this army will but emulate and imitate their brave countrymen in other parts of America, [the commander] has no doubt they will, by glorious victory, save their country, and acquire to themselves immortal honor.

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...
.....
Annual Meeting Held at
the Lexington Restaurant
.....
Good Men Wanted... Form a
MNSSAR Color Guard Today!
.....
New Minnesota Members
.....
American Eagle
.....
Minnesota Society SAR
Officers for 2007

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The formalities of the day were started by Hon. Paul Kent Theisen, President of the Minnesota Society, who led the Pledge to the U.S. flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Compatriot Jones gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society then recessed and the Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Theisen, who also serves as President of the Minneapolis Chapter.

Minneapolis Chapter

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 25 area high schools in 2006. Also in 2006 a presentation was again done at a unit of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2007 program and one additional school.

The Minneapolis Chap-



MNSSAR President, Hon. Paul Kent Theisen presented membership certificates to two new members: Michael Kahl and Douglas Olson.

ter will donate to the Minneapolis Public Library a copy of the CD of The Barbour Collection, available from Clearfield Publishing, at an approximate cost of \$59.95 on the condition that the library does not have the material and will accept it as a donation. In the event the library has it already, or deems it not acceptable, we will donate

the usual sum of \$100 for the purchase of materials relating the the Revolutionary War era. The NSSAR Magazine for the Minneapolis Public Library has been renewed for a period of three years through August 2009.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, James Fredrick Foster, called the meeting

to order. Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2006 and their students were presented with medals the past May.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2006. (See the Autumn 2006 SAR Salute.)

Minnesota Society

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the report of the MNSSAR Endowment Trust. The Trustees proposed that the 2006 interest of \$320.57 be used to pay the following donation items; Duluth Public Library \$50, Minnesota Genealogical Society \$30, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20, Preservation Alliance of

GOOD MEN WANTED!

Show Your Pride in the
Sons of the American Revolution
Form a MNSSAR Color Guard Today!

Free breakfast when you order your uniform.
See your recruiter today to earn a place where it counts.

In the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard!

Contact Compatriot Paul K. Theisen at 320/351-6221





HELD AT THE LEXINGTON RESTAURANT

Minnesota \$40, Minnesota Genealogical Journal \$24.50, NSSAR Library for Minnesota Census Microfilms \$156.07.

Membership

Compatriot Jones reported that membership stood at 128, with 125 members of the MNSSAR and three dual members. The median age of our members is 60. He presented interesting statistics regarding the age and time of membership in our society.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal Program. Letters have already been mailed to the 14 JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota. This includes a new unit in Saint Paul this year.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the



Newly installed officers. From left to right are Minneapolis Chapter VP Robert Edward Kahl, II; Saint Paul Chapter VP Larry Wray Sisk; Minnesota Society President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher; Saint Paul Chapter President, Ronald Edward McRoberts; and Minnesota Society VP James Fredrick Foster.

Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he had mailed packets to 986 new Eagle Scouts in 2006 and received thirteen entries for the contest. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting.

Other Business

Compatriot Jones reported on a new CAR Chapter at Lake Minnetonka. President Theisen reported on

progress on the establishment of a Color Guard unit. Tim Harris discussed the Minnesota Salute, our newsletter. Compatriot Sassaman told of his new book on Revolutionary graves in Pennsylvania. He was urged to contact the Historian General and enter the book in competition for the Minnesota Society Stephen Taylor award.

The Officers of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter and Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Compatriot Jones. He then presented the Past Society President's Pin and Certificate to Paul Theisen. He also presented the Minneapolis Chapter Past President's Pin and Certificate to Compatriot Theisen. Compatriot Timothy Harris presented the Saint Paul Chapter Past President's Pin and Certificate to James Foster and transferred the Chapter neck ribbon/emblem to newly installed president Ronald McRoberts.

Luncheon had been served during the business, with each ordering from the menu and handling his own check.

The SAR Recessional was read and the meeting adjourned.

NEW MNSSAR MEMBERS:

NSSAR#	New Member	Ancestor
167922	William Raymond Johnson	Hill Freeburn
168109	Douglas George Olson	John Hardin
168244	Michael Robert Kahl	Michael Kehl

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, February 17, 2007. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. John Crippen, Site Manager of the Mill City Museum will be our guest speaker.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



2007 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 Vice President James Fredrick Foster
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 Chancellor Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
 Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Stephen John Ernest
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Robert James Curtiss	Robert Earl Dingley
Peter Arrott Dixon	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	John Charles Sassaman
Larry Wray Sisk	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
Rehn Douglas Smith	Michael LaLond West
2 open positions	

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2008 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2009 Michael Scott Swisher, PP
 Trustee ending January 2010 John Hallberg Jones, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Williamsburg, VA in July 2007:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Larry Allan Lundblad
 Vice President Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
 Robert Bicknell Mirick
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Vice President Larry Wray Sisk
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....William Leslie DeCoursey
 Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 James Fredrick Foster

ARE YOUR DUES STILL DUE?

As of January 13, 2007 only eleven members still owe 2007 dues. Don't risk being dropped from membership. If you still owe 2007 dues please remit to our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, August 28, 1776



BRITISH OVERWHELM AMERICANS DURING THE BATTLE OF LONG ISLAND

17,000 of the Best Troops of Europe met 5,500 undisciplined men in the first pitched battle of the Revolution.

Brooklyn, NY – By 9 p.m. Monday night, in the light of the full moon, the British column was on the move. The point was taken by the Right Light Infantry, a unit trained to move rapidly through difficult terrain made more hazardous by the darkness. The main body under Hugh Earl Percy consisted of the Grenadiers of the 33rd West Riding, the Grenadiers of the 42nd Guards, the First Brigade, the 71st Highlanders, and the Second, Third, and Fifth Brigades. The 17th Light Dragoons provided cavalry support and there were ten light field pieces. Cornwallis followed at the rear with four 12-pound cannon, the 49th Regiment and the baggage train with another 14 guns. In all, the column was over two miles long. Further, the British had learned well the lessons of earlier battles in America. To protect against surprise attacks, each segment of the column had its own flankers and skirmishing party. The column continued on to Bedford to wait until 9 a.m., when they would sound the signal guns for the general attack.

By 8 a.m., as a result of hard night marching and poor American intelligence—indeed,

until now Washington thought that the British landing on Long Island was a feint and anticipated they would attack Manhattan—the majority of Howe's force was in position behind the American advance lines. At other attack points, General de Heister had his Hessians and Highlanders in position in front of Battle Pass; General Grant had advanced along the Shore Road and was already in a heavy firefight at Martense Lane, but he did not commit his full force. Both waited for the signal from Clinton in the northeast.

Near the Shore/Gowanus Roads, Atlee's Pennsylvanians had borne the brunt of the skirmishing with Grant's troops. At this time General Alexander "Lord Stirling" ordered Atlee to drop back so the British would have to face the fresh units he had now received. The new contingent's were placed in open order across the road. Stirling's strongest unit, the Marylanders, were on the left, anchored in a hilltop copse of trees to take advantage of the only height available. There, they had waited since first light, about four hours, and had been the target of Grant's artillery.



Colonel Samuel Miles had been ordered the previous day to keep an eye to the east, and stationed his unit—600 Pennsylvanians and some New York troops—in the American front line near Bedford Pass. When he heard of the British breakthrough, he left behind Colonel Samuel Wylly's Continentals and other units, some 800 strong, to hold the pass, and started marching east. He passed, unknown, Clinton's advance units. Soon, though, the two forces met and exchanged fire. Miles had chanced on the tail end of the British column, the baggage train. He attacked it with his forward units and sent word to his second battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Broadhead commanding, to get back to

General Sullivan and alert him of this new danger. Clinton's men now had their first major chance at the enemy. Cut off and faced with overwhelming numbers, Miles's detachment could not stand against the British, and dispersed to fight their way to safety singly or in small groups. Half, including Miles were captured at this point, while the rest falling back along Flatbush and Port roads, made their way toward the inner lines at Brooklyn Neck.

Sullivan had heard the firing coming from his rear, heard Clinton's signal cannon, and was joined by Broadhead's battalion just as remnants of Miles' bloodied unit came straggling in. After previously dispatching reinforce-

ments to the American right, Sullivan now realized the main British thrust had come up on the left and was now, in fact, behind him. Sullivan turned the greater part of his force to face the new threat, leaving the pass to be defended by his skirmishers and the artillery in a redoubt built earlier.

The British plan had worked. Diversions by Grant and de Heister had drawn the bulk of the American front-line forces to the west, leaving the way clear for an envelopment.

Up the Flatbush Road, de Heister's Hessians and Highlanders poured onto the 400 Massachusetts troops Sullivan had left to hold the pass. From both sides, the enemy came yelling and stabbing with their bayonets; the Americans used their rifles as best as they could, as clubs. Surrounded and greatly outnumbered, the surviving defenders at Battle Pass surrendered. Their damask flag bearing the word "Liberty" fell to the enemy.

The 60 Americans who surrendered were lucky. Others, not so. All over the field, many who tried to surrender were slaughtered and stragglers were shot down or bayoneted when they could not escape. Hessians with leveled bayonets formed circles around terrified groups of Americans in the woods; methodically these rings would close until all life within them was extinguished.

Though the Hessians and Highlanders accounted for much of this massacre, the British troops from Clinton's column did more than their share of the killing, falling like a torrent on the 400 men Sullivan had taken toward Bedford. When these met Clinton's advance forces, and saw that they faced overwhelming odds, the men of Sullivan's

detachment made a somewhat orderly retreat. But on the western slope of Mount Prospect they were fallen upon by Light Infantry and Dragoons and hurled back on the bayonets of the advancing Hessians. It was now high noon.

The American right-men from Maryland, Delaware, Connecticut, New York and

Pennsylvania, under Stirling's command—was still standing firm against Grant's regulars around the Shore Road. But with all three British columns now converging, the climax of the battle was at hand.

As the morning wore on, Stirling's command—once 2,000 men—diminished in numbers through casualties taken; the British were constantly being reinforced. From the south, Grant grew in strength. From the north, Hessians poured through Battle Pass coming down the Port Road to join Cornwallis's column attacking Stirling's rear. Cornwallis seized the thick-walled fieldstone-and-brick Vechte-Cortelyou house, a fortification built in 1699 to withstand Indian raids, a major strong point.

When Stirling learned of Cornwallis's presence to his rear, he took the Marylanders—Major Mordecai Gist and a reinforced heavy company, nearly 400 men—and rushed north along the Gowanus Road, leaving the bulk of his forces under General Parsons to hold off Grant while executing as orderly a retreat as possible to the inner lines. The British pressure on the right, however, simply became too

great. Even Atlee's Pennsylvanians finally broke. With Cornwallis, reinforced by the Hessians and Highlanders, coming up in the rear, rallying



by the stone house that commanded the American escape route, the entire American right wing was threatened with annihilation.

Cornwallis brought up a light cannon and placed it in the Old Stone House, soon to be joined by several heavier guns, sited around the position. Behind him, Stirling could see individuals and units of his command now desperately trying to get back across the Gowanus Creek to the inner American lines.

George Washington had reached Brooklyn before the battle began. Noticeably shaken, he watched the slaughter below him. One soldier overheard him murmur, "Good God! What brave fellows I must lose this day!"

There was only one way for Stirling to stop the inexorable British tide, and that was to attack. Into a rain of British fire the Marylanders charged, and Cornwallis recoiled, stunned by the unexpected rebel onslaught. Though the ground became littered with dead and dying Maryland militia, Stirling formed them up again. Again, they attacked, closing up the line when comrades fell, reforming and attacking again, their numbers diminishing by the minute. Six times Stirling charged, and twice the assaults drove the British from the stone house.

Each attack was met with withering counterfire as the

British masses swelled against the fanatically determined American rearguard. As Stirling launched his last assault, with a remaning handful of men, even more British reinforcements arrived. At last, the remnant of the Marylanders broke into small parties to fight their way to safety. In the last attack Stirling himself was captured by some Hessians who had outrun their unit.

Stirling's and the Marylanders' gallant action allowed the rest of the Americans remaining in the field to escape across the Gowanus Creek and survive. Only seven men crossing the Gowanus were lost through drowning. But the Marylanders had sacrificed themselves for the sake of the army. Out of barely 400 men, 256 lay dead in front of the Old Stone House. Over a hundred others were wounded and/or captured. Only Gist and nine others managed to regain the American lines.

Long Island was a British victory both in casualties and possession of the field. Howe had successfully landed his army intact, turned the enemy's flank, captured five guns and at least two standards. Washington lost about 970 men killed, wounded or missing plus 1,079 taken captive—including Generals Sullivan and Lord Stirling—against Howe's casualties of 63 killed and 337 wounded or missing. But he had not destroyed his opponent, and he decided to take the Americans' major defensive positions in good time.

Source: The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2007

DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTES

For many years the Minnesota Society has sent a donation to the Duluth Public Library to add volumes to their genealogical section. There was a Duluth Chapter S.A.R. for many years, and this is a way that we can still have a presence in that area.

We have had a nice letter from the library this year that lists some of the volumes they have added over the years, to wit:

- Revolutionary Soldiers in Kentucky
- Roster of the Virginia Navy
- The German allied troops in the North American War of Independence, 1776-1783
- The Hessians and the other German auxiliaries of Great Britain in the Revolutionary War
- Tennessee Soldiers in the Revolution
- Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Vermont

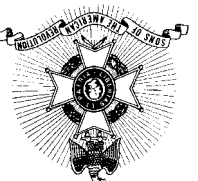
- Revolutionary Pensioners of 1818
- Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants
- Sweden and the American Revolution

They are very appreciative of our continuing support. If any of our members are in the area, do stop in and check out that section of their fine library.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



MILL CITY MUSEUM WAS THE TOPIC OF THE DAY AT THE ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

On Saturday February 17, 2007 forty-four souls including members of the Minnesota Society SAR, the Society of the Sons of the Revolution of the State of Minnesota, and their spouses and guests, gathered for the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe in Northeast Minneapolis.

Minnesota SAR President, Marvin Eugene Stonecipher, opened with greetings. After the pledge of allegiance and the SAR creed, Our Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, gave an eloquent invocation.

The Vice Regent of the Minnesota Society DAR, who is the wife of a new MNSSAR member, offered greetings.

After luncheon, Tim Harris, Chairman of the MNSSAR Eagle Scout Committee, presented this year's Minnesota Eagle Scout, Paul Banwart, with a trophy for his winning application and essay for the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program.

Afterwards Compatriot Jones introduced today's speaker, John R. Crippen, Director of the Mill City Museum. John Crippen

enhanced his topic with historic slides of Minneapolis, the Stone Arch Bridge, artists renderings of the flour explosion of 1878, and the Washburn A Mill during the hey-day of flour milling, and the ruins and museum today. He also showed slides of advertisements from the competing Washburn and Pillsbury Mills.

Unlike other neighbor river cities Minneapolis and Saint Paul are not across the river from each other. Saint Paul occupies both sides of the Mississippi at the point where steamships could not travel any farther north. St. Anthony Falls (the only falls on the Mississippi River) is the reason Minneapolis has the regional power that it enjoys today.

During the 1860's lumber mills harnessed the power of the mighty Mississippi. Later lumber mills gave way to flour milling. Beginning in 1880 and for 50 years thereafter, Minneapolis was known as the "Flour Milling Capital of the World." At the industry's peak, the Washburn A Mill was the most technologically advanced and the largest in the world. At



MNSSAR President Stonecipher, John R. Crippen, Director of the Mill City Museum and Secretary-Treasurer Jones.

peak production, it ground enough flour to make 12 million loaves of bread in a day. In 1920 a resident of Warsaw, Poland could buy Minneapolis flour cheaper than their home grown product.

The City grew up around the mills, which received grain via rail lines stretching across the Northern Plains grain belt into the Dakotas and Canada. Trains also carried the milled flour to Duluth and to eastern U. S. destinations both for export and domestic distribution.

After World War I the milling industry in Minneapolis began to decline. As the industry moved out of Minneapolis, the old mills fell into disuse. The Washburn A Mill closed in 1965. In 1991 the mill was nearly destroyed by fire.

Working through the Minneapolis Community

Development Agency, the city cleaned up the rubble and fortified the charred walls of the mill in the late 1990s. Shortly thereafter, the Minnesota Historical Society announced plans to develop the Mill City Museum.

Built within the ruins of a National Historic Landmark, the Washburn A Mill, the museum provides a multi-sensory, interactive journey. The story of flour milling and its impact on Minneapolis, the nation, and the world, comes to life through the eight-story Flour Tower and other hands-on exhibits.

In its short three-year history the Mill City Museum has received 15 major awards and is visited by more than 100,000 visitors including 30,000 school children annually.

MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS SECOND RUNNER-UP AT NATIONAL COMPETITION!



Paul Jacob Parker Banwart, of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, represented the MNSSAR in the national competition of the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. The national winners are:

- First Place: Charles C. McBride II of Connecticut
- First Runner-up: Alexander P. Spillane of New York

- Second Runner-up: Paul J.P. Banwart of Minnesota

A Minnesota Eagle Scout has either won, placed or showed at the national level by the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Committee four times in the last six years!

Congratulations Paul!

Paul, from Shakopee, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon where he received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner. His mother and father were also in attendance. John read his patriotic essay entitled *George Rogers Clark The Forgotten Hero* which is presented on the back of this newsletter.

Paul's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners where he won the \$2,000 scholarship.

Paul won the Minnesota Spreading Wings trophy last year as well. His brother Benjamin also won the Minnesota award twice and went on to win the \$8,000 scholarship in 2002.



Three new members received membership certificates and rosettes during the George Washington Observance and Luncheon. From left to right; William Raymond Johnson, Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork and Mark Allen Labine.

NEW MNSSAR MEMBERS:

<i>NSSAR#</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
167922	William Raymond Johnson	Hill Freeman
168311	Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork	Nathan Spicer
168312	Mark Allen Labine	James Dascomb
168340	Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Jr.	Thomas Truxtun
168390	The Rev. Henry T. Morrison, Jr.	Thomas Truxtun
168662	Andreas Dovolos Hoeft	Andrew Rench
168663	Charles Edward Boyles	Charles Boyles
168748	Joel Thompson Severinghaus, Jr.	Abraham Bertrand
168749	Robert Nelson Severinghaus	Abraham Bertrand
168750	Robert LeRoy Neiman	Philip Neiman
168751	William McIntyre Hoeft	Andrew Rench

*More new members registration papers are at
 NSSAR Headquarters*

GOOD MEN WANTED!

Show Your Pride in the
 Sons of the American Revolution
 Form a MNSSAR Color Guard Today!

Free breakfast when you order your uniform.
 See your recruiter today to earn a place where it counts.

In the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard!

Contact Compatriot Paul K. Theisen at 320/351-6221



GEORGE ROGERS CLARK THE FORGOTTEN HERO

By Paul Jacob Parker Banwart – 2006 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

When most people think of the Revolutionary War, they may think of George Washington, Commander and Chief of the Continental Army; John Adams, politician and signer of the Treaty of Paris; and Cornwallis, defeated British general. But most people forget about others' sacrifices that were equally as important to the success of the Revolutionary War. One man, in particular, despite his determination and success, is often forgotten. Many textbooks do not even mention his name. Nonetheless, he played a vital role for American independence west of the Allegheny Mountains. This revolutionary is George Rogers Clark.

George Rogers Clark was born in Virginia on November 19, 1752. He attended school and was tutored at home. George Rogers Clark became a surveyor and, like George Washington, was a tall individual. But unlike George Washington, Clark was not born into wealth. In order to obtain his riches, he sought land in what is now Kentucky.

When the Revolutionary War broke-out, Clark's

land was in jeopardy of being taken by British-allied Indian attacks. He traveled to Virginia where his demand for gun powder was met. Shortly after, Kentucky was inducted as a county of Virginia. Clark, a formidable Indian fighter, was able to succeed with a small militia called "Long Knives" on self-run campaigns. Proving himself a worthy fighter and leader, Virginia gave him a battle. Clark's wit and unexpected tactics allowed for the capture of strategic locations such as Forts Sackville, Kaskaskia, and Vincennes. For example, at Fort Vincennes, the enemy was tricked into surrendering after Clark's men marched displaying their company's flags around the fort, thus giving the illusion of an army three times as large. Clark's army also won the battle of Peckuwe, the largest battle west of the Allegheny Mountains during the Revolutionary War.

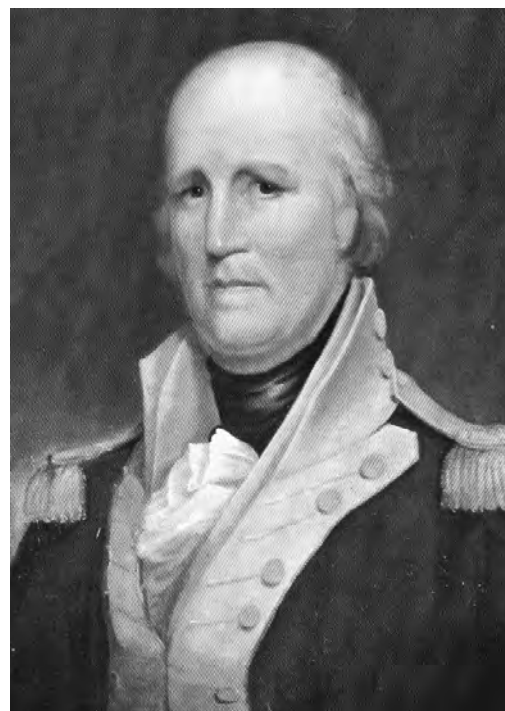
Even though the idea of manifest destiny was not created by Clark, he was able to live it by securing the land west of the Allegheny Mountains. People were able to discover and develop its

natural resources, therefore beginning the rapid growth into the west.

In 1803, because Clark personally assumed much of the financial responsibility for his early campaigns, creditors took all his assets, only saving his retirement land which overlooked the Falls of

Ohio. After suffering his third stroke, Clark passed away at age 62 on February 13, 1818 at Locust Grove, near Louisville which he is credited to have founded.

George Rogers Clark was a man of valor with amazing leadership skills that lead to victory in the west over the British and their Indian allies. His charisma and attitude had an affect on the way in which America society functions beyond the original thirteen colonies. Perhaps without Clark's influence on his brother,



William; the Corps of Discovery may have turned-out differently. Manifest destiny might have been acted upon by another nation. Who knows what America would be like today? For these reasons, we should not forget George Rogers Clark; we should embrace how he changed our lives. George Rogers Clark's spirit will always be identified with the independence of the Revolutionary War and the stake in expanding our ideals across this continent.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, August 31, 1776



AMERICANS EVACUATE BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Brilliant maneuver saves American Army.

New York, NY – After the Battle of Long Island, British General William Howe was confident that he had trapped a large part of the American army, perhaps ten thousand men, on Brooklyn Heights, with Admiral Richard Howe's Royal Navy in their rear.

Throughout two rainy days, the British repaired the damage from the fighting on August 27. Then, on the morning of August 30, Howe sent out a patrol. American sniping had continued throughout the night, and Howe wanted to know why there was now a lull in the fire.

The British scouts came back with an incredible answer. During the night, George Washington had disappeared with all of the American Army.

On August 29th Washington ordered every available vessel brought to the shore behind him, and swarms of barges, sailboats and punts collected there. Many of the sailors were fishermen from Marblehead, Massachusetts. By 10 P.M., Washington was ready to begin. Instead of facing the night attack they had been dreading, the American soldiers were called from their positions in the trenches. Their lines were so tightly organized that no gaps could be spotted by the British sentries. Campfires were kept burning while regiment after regiment left their stations and

were replaced by the men behind them. Washington had gone ahead to the river and was supervising the loading of the troops.

Throughout the evening, into the night and until dawn, line after line of cold, wet, defeated American soldiers filed down to the shore to be ferried to Manhattan. The Massachusetts fishermen rowed with muffled, cloth-covered oars through the night in their endless two-mile circuit from shore to shore.

Major Benjamin Tallmadge, adjutant with Colonel John Chester's Connecticut regiment, witnessed "To move so large a body of troops with all their necessary appendages across a river full a mile wide, with a rapid current, in face of a victorious, well-disciplined army nearly three times as numerous as his own and a fleet capable of stopping the navigation so that not one boat could have passed over, seemed to present most formidable obstacles. But in the face of these difficulties, the Commander-in-Chief so arranged his business."

The rotation of troops through the lines facing the British had gone as ordered. Then one of Washington's aides made a near-fatal mistake. At 2 A.M. Washington was watching impatiently over the loadings when he was surprised to see Colonel Israel Hand riding toward the ferry.

He had instructed Hand and his Pennsylvania troops to hold the American defenses to the very end.

Washington called to him through the darkness. "Isn't that Colonel Hand? You of all officers! I thought you would never abandon your post!"

Hand assured him that he had left only under orders from his immediate commander, General Thomas Mifflin.

"Impossible!" Washington said. Hand was trying to convince him when General Mifflin rode up and asked what was the matter.

Washington rounded on him. "Good God, General Mifflin! I'm afraid you have ruined us by so unseasonably withdrawing the troops from the lines."

Mifflin said angrily, "I did it by your order." and asked: "Did Scammell act as an aide-de-camp for the day, or did he not? I had orders through him."

The General replied it had been a dreadful mistake, and informed him that matters were in much confusion at the ferry, and unless we could resume our posts before the enemy discovered we had left them, in all probability the most disagreeable consequences would follow.

The nor'easter masked Washington's movements and kept British ships out of the East River. Then incredibly, there was another change in the weather. Tallmadge remembered that "a very dense fog began to rise, and it

seemed to settle in a peculiar manner over both encampments." It was so thick that Tallmadge could "scarcely discern a man at six yards' distance."

The fog that had covered the troops' movement lifted as the sun rose yesterday morning and the British did not suspect anything unusual happening until seven o'clock. Nonetheless, the suspicion was not confirmed until General Robertson led a party into the deserted camp at 8:30, just as the boats were taking the last of the Americans to Manhattan.

As a result of this retreat, Washington was able to extricate about 9,500 men, his entire force, with their equipment and supplies, and all but five cannon from under the noses of the British. Major Tallmadge, in one of the last boats, reported of seeing a very tall man, in a cloak and boots, coming down the steps to be helped board a skiff by one of the men from Marblehead. It was Washington, who left with the last of his troops.

Source: The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

Washington's Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, Inc.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday, September 12, 1776



PEACE CONFERENCE ON STATEN ISLAND

Informal peace conference ends fruitlessly.

Tottenville, NJ – The meeting was held yesterday in the Billopp Manor, General Howe's headquarters in Tottenville on Staten Island. In attendance were General Sir William Howe, his brother Admiral Richard Howe, who is also a British Lord, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Edmund Rutledge.

After the American defeat on Long Island, Lord Stirling and General Sullivan had been passing the time more comfortably in captivity aboard Admiral Howe's flagship, the *Eagle*, than they would have done at Washington's side. Admiral Howe convinced General Sullivan that they could end the war now and that the Parliament would ratify any treaty Howe made. The admiral had denounced the war as senseless and said that Britain must surrender all rights to tax the colonies. That at least was what Sullivan had thought the admiral was saying. After some hesitation, Sullivan had agreed to carry Howe's peace overtures to the Congress. Carrying a pass to get him through the British lines, Sullivan had reached New York on his way to Philadelphia hours before Washington completed his evacuation from Brooklyn.

George Washington was convinced that Howe's propos-

als would come to nothing. But after such a humbling defeat he was in no position to cancel Sullivan's mission. Three days later in Philadelphia, John Sullivan told the Congress about Lord Howe's generous terms.

Like Washington, John Adams distrusted Howe's overtures. Sullivan explained that the admiral proposed a meeting but could not deal with the Congress as an official body. He would be pleased to receive several members as private gentlemen for an hour or two of conversation. Adams spoke vigorously against any agreement with Howe.

But some delegates believed that spurning Howe's offer might suggest to people, at home and abroad, who were uncommitted to American independence, that the British legitimately sought peace and that the Americans were protracting the war. After four days of debate, the members decided to send an official delegation to New York, which Howe would probably refuse to receive. And if did see the delegates, Howe would have no chance of working his wiles on them. Two of the three chosen to go were John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. Edward Rutledge of South Carolina was the third. The Congress also accepted

Howe's offer to exchange Sullivan and Lord Stirling for two British prisoners.

When the delegates reached the town of Brunswick, New Jersey, all the inns were filled, and Adams and Franklin had to share a bed. Their tiny room had one small window. Adams closed it. He considered his health precarious and was wary of chills from the night air. Franklin insisted that the window remain open. He assured Adams that with the window closed the air in their chamber would soon be worse than it was outside and proceeded to acquaint Adams with his theory of colds.

There had been no chance that Admiral Howe would refuse to see the Americans. Protocol would not deter him if he had a chance to persuade the Congress to give up the war. He greeted the Americans with elaborate thanks for the honor they did him in coming and led them past ranks of grenadiers to the house, where they found, amid the military squalor, one large and handsome room elegantly spread with a fine dinner of cold ham, tongue and mutton, accompanied by a good claret.

Howe said he was meeting them not as members of Congress but only as gentlemen of great ability and influence. Adams replied that his lordship might consider him any way he please, except as a British subject.

Howe turned to the others with a smile and said, "Mr.

Adams is a decided character."

After a few more exchanges it was clear that Adams had been right in his suspicions. Richard Howe had no particular powers. Any peace depended on the colonies once again pledging their full allegiance to the throne. As for John Sullivan's assurances that Parliament would give up its right of taxation—why, said Howe, Sullivan had evidently misheard him.

At one point, Lord Howe insinuated a threat into his argument. Ravaging and destroying America, he told his guests, would give him great pain.

Benjamin Franklin promptly replied that the Americans must take proper—and, he hoped, effective—care to spare his lordship's feelings.

The night with Howe ended as fruitlessly as John Adams might have wished.

If the limping conference had done anything, it had placed a severe strain on Lord Howe's affection for America, while delaying his brother's pursuit of George Washington.

Source: The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York

Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

George Washington's War by Robert Leckie, Published by HarperCollins, 1992

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2007



New MNSSAR Honor Guard

For three men – Paul Theisen of Sauk Centre, Jim Church of Elk River and Craig Whiting of Brainerd – it was the first time they “trooped” their colors at Jax Cafe in Minneapolis, as members of the MNSSAR Honor Guard. It’s a newly formed honor guard in an organization that has been around for years. On August 29 they met at the Sauk Centre Armory, wearing their specially ordered uniforms for the first time. That includes the blue coat. The buff colored vest and trousers were from the Massachusetts line and the red was from the New York line. Their black tri-corner hat, trimmed white, contained an emblem on the front, indicating the officer’s rank. All three have been SAR members for a few years, but this was their first try as honor guard members, and they are hoping to increase their numbers.

Source: Sauk Centre Herald, September 11, 2007.

MNSSAR
2008 MEETINGS ...

- Saturday, January 12, 2008
Jax Cafe
- Saturday, February 16, 2008
Jax Cafe
- Saturday, September 20, 2008
Jax Cafe

Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON:

Paul F. Davis, General President of the SR is Guest of Honor

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 15, 2007. The MNSSAR President, Marvin Stonecipher (Stoney) opened with greetings. Stoney introduced the Minnesota SR President, John Hallberg Jones who performed double-duty as Secretary-Treasurer of the MNSSAR as well. Jones informed the audience of fifty a short explanation of the differences between the SR and the SAR organizations. Stoney then called on the newly formed honor guard to post the colors. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge Compatriot Jones gave a very eloquent invocation.

Jax Cafe offered a variety of entrees from their menu including, filet mignon, sauteed walleye pike, pasta

of the day, grilled pork chops, grilled chicken sandwich, pierogi and sausage or the Jax burger. Everyone was given a hot popover and a Caesar salad to begin their meal.

Before luncheon the Minnesota Sons of the Revolution conducted their business. Following that Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented a certificate and rosette to three new members of the MNSSAR, a supplemental certificate to a current member, and youth certificates and lapel pins to two new youth registrants.

Tim Harris gave an abbreviated report of the MNSSAR Eagle Scout Committee activity, noting that our 2007 Minnesota Winner went on to win third place nationally and received a \$2,000 scholarship from the NSSAR. 980 letters were mailed this past week to start the program for

2008.

Compatriot Jones introduced today's speaker, Paul K. Davis. Paul is a native of Iowa and grew up in the midwest and is now a member of the Arizona Society of the SAR and started the Society of the SR in Arizona. He is presently the General President of the Sons of the Revolution. He reported on recent activities of the General Society. His topic for our meeting was entitled: *From Loyalist to Patriot* – A Presentation of the Activities and Impact of James Otis "The Oak," Samuel Adams "The Failure," and Benjamin Franklin "The Purloiner," Leading up to the American Revolution.

While growing numbers of protesters voiced their complaints about colonial policies, discontent with the British-American relationship was never universal in the colonies. Davis stated

that the "independence movement" never had the backing of a majority of the Americans. Patriots, often called Whigs or Colonials, won the wholehearted adherence of perhaps one-third of those who lived in North American colonies. Tories, or Loyalists were about as numerous. As for the rest, "they didn't care a pinch of snuff" for the issues involved in the long-drawn-out struggle.

James Otis was a highly respected Boston attorney and was the "Advocate General of the Vice Admiralty Court" for the King. But in August of 1760, the newly appointed governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony issued a "Writ of Assistance" to stop smuggling to the Colonies from the French islands in the Caribbean to avoid excise fees and taxes. This became a blank search warrant and



John Hallberg Jones, President of the Minnesota SR, Paul K. Davis, General President of the SR, and Duane L.C.M. Galles, Secretary-Treasurer Minnesota SR.



New MNSSAR member/ancestor: Jay Thomas W. Franklin/Elias Bost; Robert Leroy Neiman/Philip Neiman; Charles Edward Boyles/Charles Boyles.



A supplemental certificate was awarded to Rehn Douglas Smith. His Revolutionary War ancestor is Edward Lucas.



Youth Registrant Certificates and lapel pins were presented to Zachary Allan Remple (age 15) and Bryce Alexander Remple (age 12). Ancestor: George Douglas.



2007 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

ROTC Awards

Young cadets from seven college ROTC units and 14 high school JROTC units throughout Minnesota were presented with certificates and ROTC medals by the MNSSAR. It is presented to ROTC cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Thank you to Compatriots Marvin Stonecipher, James Foster, Hon. David Bouschor, James Church, Tim Harris, Larry Sisk and John Jones for being presenters.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Bronze Good Citizenship award was presented to outstanding graduating seniors from twenty-five Minneapolis area high schools and also at the Twin Cities Naval Sea Cadet Squadron. Medals were also awarded to eleven Saint 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*.

All were presented by school staff except for the Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minnesota. This was the first time we have done one there. John



Hallberg Jones did the presentation. Added to the presentation was a scholarship check for \$100 as a personal gift to the school from the Lorraine Yatckoske Jones and John Hallberg Jones Scholarship Fund, which was established at the Academy this year to continue in the future. The award presentation was given statewide publicity on the web site of the Minnesota Conference of Seventh Day Adventists.

Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing their patriotism and love of country. This years recipients are from White Bear Lake, Minnesota:

- Lake Area Bank
- Magnepan
- Marprint/Paragon Labeling Systems (shown above)
- North Star Bank
- Washington Square Apts.

any premises could be searched with no solid evidence of wrongdoing. Leading merchants of Boston pooled their resources and hired attorney James Otis to represent them in legal proceedings to block the use of the Writ. In order to accept the case, Otis had to resign his position at the Vice Admiralty Court. His work eventually lead him to become a patriot.

In 1765, Samuel Adams had taken the job of tax collector for the port of Boston. Adams was a conspicuous failure in business, and he was badly in need of cash. Hence he was glad to accept the Crown post, regardless of its nature. However, he was no more effective as tax collector than he had been in business. During eight years, uncollected taxes accumulated in the sum of £8,000, causing Adams to lose his post. Once out of office, he became a fervent, eloquent critic of British taxation. His pamphlets and speeches led him to be labeled the "Great Agitator." Eventually, Sam Adams. "The Failure" had succeeded and he found his place in history!

Benjamin Franklin was not an "Oak" like Otis, nor certainly not a "Failure" like Adams. Franklin definitely knew how to play the game and cover all the bases. He always knew the score! In 1753 he accepted the post of Deputy Postmaster General of North America and he held onto it tenaciously. As

Deputy Postmaster General, Franklin had access to all letters to and from the Crown. On December 12, 1772, he sent a packet of 18 letters to the Speaker of the Massachusetts Assembly, Thomas Cushing. He indicated that the letters were "purloined," but by whom (it was Ben) he could not say. Samuel Adams read them to the shocked and astonished members of the House of Assembly. Most were written by Thomas Hutchinson, Chief Justice of Massachusetts, to the King himself. By a vote of 101 to 5, members declared their outrage! The letters had served their purpose! In January, 1774 the 68 year old Franklin was charged with Sedition, threatened with a stay in Newgate Jail and stripped of his prized Postmastership and Agent for Massachusetts. He returned to America in May 1775 to a Hero's welcome.

The results of the efforts of Loyalist to Patriot James Otis, Samuel Adams and Benjamin Franklin each in his own way, resulted in unifying and energizing a divided populous and proving once again that "Freedom is Not Free" – Never before did so few do so much for so many!

Afterward Paul Davis was presented with a certificate and a book entitled "The Modern Renaissance – Saint Paul."

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, September 7, 1776



'SUBMARINE' ATTEMPTS TO SINK BRITISH FLAGSHIP

Staten Island, NY – Yesterday a volunteer from Lyme, Conn., 45-year-old Sergeant Ezra Lee, riding inside the world's first military submarine dubbed the "Turtle," set out to attack Admiral Sir Richard Howe's flagship, the Eagle, at anchor off Staten Island, N.Y.

At almost midnight, the intrepid soldier entered his submarine and began his approach. Inside of minutes, he had lost his bearings in relation to the dimly outlined vessels of Howe's fleet, and the strong tide—outgoing, a fact no one had thought of—swept him swiftly past and far beyond the fleet, headed for open water. With frantic operation of his windmill-propulsion system, Lee managed to perspire his way back within range, 2-1/2 hours later. Submerging, he went to work on the chosen ship's bottom. Again, he learned a fact that had been overlooked: The copper cladding over the bottom timber could not be bored by the wooden screw. The Turtle kept bobbing away with each turn of the screw.

By dawn, the "attack" was over. With the coming of the day, he could no longer retreat periodically to the surface to gulp in a fresh one-half-hour supply of oxygen, since he would instantly be spotted. Lee began the return trip, this time assisted by the tide, which was now running shoreward. He came up to check on his position and found himself a few hundred yards off Governors

Island. To his dismay, he found his approach being watched excitedly by hundreds of British soldiers running along the shore. Through his tiny windows he could see a barge being shoved into the surf, manned by a party of British Marines, coming to investigate the strange object.

With his limited speed and caught in shallow water, capture was unavoidable. Determined not to fall into enemy hands, he armed and cut the bomb loose, hoping the explosion would blow them all—including himself and the sub—to pieces. The unexpected happened. Frightened by a new floating object, the barge backed off, allowing Lee to paddle furiously away and escape. The bomb leisurely floated off. Minutes later, it exploded with a loud report that could be heard clearly by observers as far away as the Battery on the tip of Manhattan Island.

Ever since the arrival of the first of Howe's fleet, General Washington, without a single heavy vessel at his command, had been at the mercy of the British, so far as point of attack was concerned. Washington and many others interested in the defense of America had long recognized that the mighty ships of the enemy constituted a menace against which the colonies as yet had no defense. From the first days of the war, inventive men had offered to Congress schemes for destroying the



British shipping. David Bushnell, of Connecticut, fresh from the college at New Haven, actually constructed a manually powered, one-man submarine and brought it to New York.

The craft was a sailor's nightmare. Shaped like a round clam, it was six feet high and just over seven feet long, with barely enough room to hold one man. To submerge, a foot spring opened a cock to let in water. For surfacing, Bushnell's design called on two hand pumps, to force the water ballast back out. The potential coffin carried two guidance instruments: a compass and a depth gauge.

Once inside the contraption, Sergeant Lee was sealed in. He could not free himself to get out even if an emergency arose, since exterior strapping held the small entry cover secure and watertight and he had no way to reach it from within. While the submarine ran on the surface, it had two small tubes placed to bring in fresh air. But after submerging, Lee had only the free air within his cramped compartment upon which to rely. The

supply was adequate for 30 minutes of underwater maneuvering. For motive power, designer Bushnell furnished two sets of windmill-shaped paddles. With a vigorous hand cranking, one paddle in each hand, Lee could manage a top speed of 3 mph. The Turtle was kept in a stable position afloat by the 700 lbs. of lead used for ballast.

The ship's weaponry system was equally primitive. On deck, just behind the hatch, Lee carried an egg-shaped box loaded with 150 lbs. of gunpowder, along with a detonating apparatus and a clock timer to set the charge off. In theory, this bomb was to be placed beneath an enemy ship's bottom. To keep it in place until exploded, Lee's orders called for utilizing a long hand screw, turning the tool from within his compartment, to bore a hole into the ship's bottom. Once bored into the timber, the screw was to be left there; the box was fastened to it by a length of rope. His clock timer allowed for a maximum getaway time of 20 minutes after the device was triggered.

Sergeant Lee finally reached the shore, to be greeted warmly by General Israel Putnam and other Colonial officers who had seen the surprising explosion.

Source: David Wallechinsky and Irving Wallace from "The Peoples Almanac" Series of books.

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Da Capo Press Inc.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2008



MNSSAR ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at Jax Cafe on January 12, 2008. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The society was called to order by President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher. Past President James Cecil Church, who was wearing his color guard uniform, led the Pledge to the US flag. President Stonecipher read the pledge to the SAR and Vice President James Fredrick Foster gave the invocation.

Continued inside...

INSIDE THE
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MNSSAR Annual General
Meeting Held at Jax Cafe
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Minnesota Society SAR
Officers for 2008
.....
American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer Jones, in the absence of President Lundblad (health reasons) and Vice President Kahl (business travel). Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 26 area high schools in 2007, including a new school in the program, Maplewood Academy at Hutchinson, Minnesota. The presentation at Maplewood resulted in outstanding publicity for the SAR as it was written about in the Newsletter of the Minnesota Conference of Seventh Day Adventists and appeared on their website as well. Compatriot Jones had made the presentation and in addition he and his wife had established a scholarship at the school that is presented to the winner. Also in 2007 a presentation was again done at a unit of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2008 program and one additional school.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the NSSAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Secretary-Treasurer Jones noted that the NSSAR Magazine subscription for the Minneapolis Public Library runs through August 2009.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, Ronald Edward McRoberts, called the meeting to order. Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2007 and their students were presented with medals the past May. Tim reported that letters were already mailed to twelve area high schools to begin the program for 2008.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2007. (See the Autumn 2007 SAR Salute.)

Noting that the Saint Paul Chapter has a much smaller treasury than the Minneapolis Chapter, President Ronald McRoberts made a generous donation of \$100 to the Saint Paul Chapter and encouraged others to follow suit.

Minnesota Society

During 2007 we had 13 new members, 1 reinstatement, 1 transfer in, 1 death, and 2 resigned, giving a net increase of 12, for a membership of 130, plus 3 dual members. All are paid for 2008 and our Annual Report to NSSAR has been filed.

Donald Steinkraus was presented his certificate of

membership and rosette. Ronald McRoberts and John Sassaman were presented certificates for approved supplemental applications. It was noted that Robert Neiman, who received his certificate at our September meeting was pictured in the St. Cloud Citizen Times newspaper – a color photo of the presentation. It was great publicity for the SAR. Compatriot Jones indicated our median age for members is now 61 and the median length of time of membership is 14 years.

MNSSAR Endowment Trust Fund

The Trustees of the SAR Endowment Trust Fund proposed that the 2007 interest of \$294.04 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$50.00, MN Genealogical Society \$30.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of MN \$40.00, MN Genealogical Journal \$24.50 and the NSSAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage \$129.04.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the 14 JROTC units and the 7 ROTC units in Minnesota. Several Compatriots have assisted with the

presentations over the last few years and many spoke of their experiences at these ceremonies.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to 980 new Eagle Scouts in 2007 and has received 11 entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting.

MNSSAR Color Guard

Compatriot James Church reported for the new Minnesota SAR Color Guard. He appeared in uniform at this meeting. The three members, Paul Theisen, Craig Whiting, and Jim Church have made appearances already and have been well received.

As the officers of the society and chapters were all continuing in office, no installation was necessary.

Following the reading of the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

SAR Salute



The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

President.....	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Vice President	James Fredrick Foster
Secretary-Treasurer.....	John Hallberg Jones, PP
Registrar	Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....	William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
Chancellor	Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
Historian/Newsletter Editor	Timothy Charles Harris, PP
Librarian.....	Thomas Christopher Harris
Surgeon	Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
Chaplain	The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms	Paul Victor William E. Miller

James Cecil Church	Stephen John Ernest
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.	Robert Bicknell Mirick
Curtis John Oliver	Michael Scott Swisher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Robert James Curtiss	Robert Earl Dingley
Peter Arrott Dixon	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
James Gillespie Hirsh	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Larry Allan Lundblad	Ronald Edward McRoberts
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	John Charles Sassaman
Larry Wray Sisk	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
Rehn Douglas Smith	Michael LaLond West
2 open positions	

Trustee ending January 2009 Michael Scott Swisher, PP
Trustee ending January 2010 John Hallberg Jones, PP
Trustee ending January 2011 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN John Hallberg Jones, PP

President.....	Larry Allan Lundblad
Vice President	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Secretary-Treasurer.....	John Hallberg Jones
Chaplain	The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Board of Managers.....	Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
	Tracy Ashley Crocker
	Timothy Charles Harris

James Cecil Church
William Leslie DeCoursey
Arthur Louis Finnell
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Robert Bicknell Mirick
Michael Scott Swisher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Larry Larson Warren
Page Gregory Whitmore

President.....	Ronald Edward McRoberts
Vice President	Larry Wray Sisk
Secretary-Treasurer	Timothy Charles Harris
Chaplain	Michael Scott Swisher
Board of Managers.....	William Leslie DeCoursey
	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
	James Fredrick Foster

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, February 16, 2008. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. MNSSAR Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, will give a speech entitled "Fun and Games – an Overview of Lineage Societies".

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday, September 17, 1776



NEW YORK IS LOST!

American Army retreat and hold on to Harlem Heights in northern Manhattan.

Harlem Heights, NY – Early on the morning of Sept. 15, Admiral Richard Howe sent a squadron of the Royal Navy up the Hudson River and made a noisy demonstration to draw the enemy's attention to that side. Washington and his aides thought it was a diversion. More subtle signs pointed to an attack at the northern end of Manhattan island on the East River, near the small country village of Harlem. Washington rode there and prepared to fight.

Once again he was deceived by another of the Howe's ingenious stratagems. While the Americans gathered near Harlem on northern Manhattan, other British ships sailed into the East River on the night of September 14-15 and anchored near Kip's Bay. Standing guard on that shore, in what was thought to be quiet sector, were green Connecticut levies.

The thunder from the eighty big guns of the British ships along the East River terrified the American soldiers waiting on the shore. Men thought that the sound alone would blow their heads off, and they leaped from their ditches to avoid being buried under sand and sods of earth.

Waiting at the wrong place for the attack, George Washington heard guns, mounted his horse and galloped the four miles from the Heights to the riverbank where the British and the Germans had landed. Masses of terrified American soldiers poured toward him up the Post Road. Washington rode into their midst and cried out to "Take the walls!" as he

pointed to fences where they could still mount a defense. Then, because they were clogging the road and blocking an orderly retreat, he shouted, "Take the cornfield!"

Some men ran off the road to do as Washington directed. Most surged forward blindly. At an orchard to their right, a few Americans moved toward the Germans with their arms raised in surrender. On Long Island, some of Howe's soldiers had pretended to give up, waited until the American's drew close and then raised muskets and fired into their faces. This day the Germans were taking no chances. Despite the Americans' upraised hands, they shot them down and stabbed them with bayonets.

Washington was lashing out with his cane at the backs of the fleeing soldiers. He cursed them as "dastardly sons of cowardice" and threatened to run his sword through the next man who deserted. At one point he shamed a few hundred of the men into making a stand. But when a small unit of British soldiers appeared—no more than sixty or seventy—the Americans again turned and ran, leaving Washington and his aides unprotected. Nathaniel Green thought Washington was so angry over his men's conduct that he seemed more willing to die than to live. Other men said he threw down his hat in despair and cried, "Good God, have I got such troops as those?" But Washington's luck held, and he rode away unscathed.

New York was lost. With it

went much of the American Army's baggage and tents and fifty or sixty cannon. Only three British soldiers had been killed, another eighteen wounded. As Washington retreated with his faltering troops to Harlem Heights, Israel Putnam was leading his men in the same direction. The British troops marched down Broadway in New York at 4 p.m., twelve hours after their landing, while Putnam's soldiers escaped along a parallel route next to the Hudson River. General Howe might have cut Putnam off with a rapid pursuit, but instead he was looking around town for room where he could be comfortable during the coming winter. When one of his officers pressed him to hurry after the retreating Americans, the general swore and said he would not be rushed. A conclusive victory was again within his reach, but Howe had decided that he could not crush George Washington just yet.

The American Army was safe behind its ramparts on Harlem Heights, a rise four miles long and beyond the range of Admiral Howe's guns. The Americans now numbered about ten thousand. Their losses included a few dead, and twenty officers and three hundred men taken prisoner. In New York, Tory civilians came out of hiding to cheer loudly and carry British officers through the streets on their shoulders.

North of the city, Washington rallied his men on the high ground of Harlem Heights. In front, on wooded ground, two brigades were posted as an advance guard. On Monday Sept. 16, the British and Hessians moved north, driving the Americans before them.

Washington sent Adjutant Joseph Reed to learn what was happening. Reed returned to report that the American Infantry "behaved well, stood and returned fire till, overpowered by numbers, they were obliged to retreat. The enemy advanced very fast.

Reed himself took the lead. Smallwood's Maryland regiment, the Connecticut Rangers, and the Virginia infantry took cover in a ravine, overgrown with bushes. On its western edge was a post-and-rail fence. The British light infantry came on, full of confidence. When they reached the fence the Americans rose up and fired. The British infantry stopped, then fell back under heavy fire. The Americans came forward firing, and the British retreated with heavy losses. It was a small victory, but timely.

In the gloom before dawn a British bugler blew "Gone to Earth." It was the hunter's call, when the fox had found his hole. Joseph Reed, the American adjutant general, thought he had never felt such a sensation of shame. The jeering notes seemed to crown America's disgrace.

To the British, Washington's elusiveness earned him the nickname "The Fox." Over the previous few weeks, they had consistently won the engagements, but never decisively, and always with Washington escaping at the last moment.

Source: Washington's Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, Inc.

Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

The Battle of Brooklyn 1776, by John J. Gallagher, Published by Sarpedon, New York

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2008



From left to right; Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Arthur Louis Finnell and Paul Scott Brady

NEW MEMBER AND SUPPLEMENTAL CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

<i>NSSAR#</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
170859	Paul Scott Brady, Ph.D.	Charles A. Brady
<i>NSSAR#</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Supplemental Ancestor</i>
111197	Arthur Louis Finnell	Nathaniel Freeman
167204	Thomas Truxtun Morrison	Philip Heffelfinger

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...
New Members
"Fun and Games – an Overview
of Lineage Societies" was the
topic at the Annual
Washington Day Luncheon
American Eagle
Shakopee Eagle Scout Honored
.....
MNSSAR Color Guard

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





FUN AND GAMES – AN OVERVIEW OF LINEAGE SOCIETIES



On Saturday February 16, 2008 over forty members of the Minnesota Society SAR, and the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, their spouses and guests gathered for the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe in Northeast Minneapolis. Minnesota SAR President, Marvin Eugene Stoncipher and John Hallberg Jones, President of the SR in Minnesota, opened with greetings. Stoncipher then called on the newly formed color guard to post the colors. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge compatriot Ronald McRoberts gave a very eloquent invocation.

Faye Vork, Regent of the Minnesota Society DAR offered greetings from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Afterwards Duane L.C.M. Galles, Secretary-

Treasurer of the SR in Minnesota introduced today's speaker – our own John Hallberg Jones, Secretary-Treasurer of the MNSSAR. Duane Galles noted that John H. Jones belongs to three typed pages worth of lineage societies and takes leadership roles in many of them.

John Hallberg Jones has been researching his genealogy for fifty years and has seen changes over the years. During the 1970's Alex Haley's *Roots* was published which prompted an interest in genealogy. During the 1980's with the advent of personal computers and then the internet, genealogy blossomed further. There is good and bad in researching on-line. There is an abundance of information to be gleaned on-line but you have to be careful that the data is accurate. The same errors can be downloaded and repeated if one is not careful.

Jones noted that there are some top-notch genealogists in the MNSSAR and does not consider himself in that group... but he has a lot of fun researching his genealogy. John stated that there are 200-300 lineage societies one could join. Many are male or

female specific and some are co-ed. Some are national organizations only while others have state or local units that hold local meetings.

Geographical Location

These societies tend to be male or female specific or co-ed and only a few have local meetings. Some examples include:

- First Families of Minnesota (or any other state)
- National Society, Sons of Colonial New England
- National Society New England Women
- National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims
- Jamestown Society

Action Specific: Military or Civil Service

Many of this type of society are fraternal or maternal organizations and meet locally regularly – for example, Order of the Second World War, Order of the First World War, Spanish American War, and many Civil War Societies including:

- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
- Sons of Confederate Veterans and Daughters of Confederate Veterans
- Daughters of Union Veterans

- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- National Order of the Blue and Gray

There are these types of societies for the War of 1812, American Revolution, Indian Wars, Colonial Wars – you name it.

Then of course there are societies for descendants of the Mayflower, Huguenots, Colonial Physicians, Clergy, Early Quakers, Flagon & Trencher, Bench and Bar, Planters, Artisans, Tradesmen, Craftsmen, Colonial Governors, Ancient and Honorable Artillery, Descendants of Cavaliers

Societies from the other side of the Atlantic can take you back many hundred years such as the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne or Baronial Order of the Magna Charta just to name a few.

Other societies are just plain fun such as Presidents and First Ladies. In this organization you trace your genealogy to a common ancestor and back down to find a cousin who was a president or a first lady. Another fun society is Registry of Infamous and Famous Relatives of American Families – *or* – RIFRAF.

See www.hereditary.us for a complete list.

MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS FIRST PLACE SCHOLARSHIP AT NATIONAL COMPETITION!



Paul Jacob Parker Banwart, of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, represented the MNSSAR in the national competition of the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. The national winners are:

- First Place: Paul Banwart, Minnesota
- First Runner-up: Christopher A. O'Connell of Georgia
- Second Runner-up: Matthew C. Authement of Florida

The MNSSAR has had three first place Eagle Scouts, one first runner-up and one second runner-up at the national level of the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Committee in the past seven years!

Congratulations Paul!

Paul Jacob Parker Banwart from Shakopee, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon where he received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner. His mother and father were also guests of the MNSSAR. John read his patriotic essay entitled *The Continental Army's Harshes Winter: Morristown 1780* which is presented on the back of this newsletter.

Paul's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners where he won a \$6,000 scholarship.

Paul won the Minnesota Spreading Wings trophy the past two years and was the \$2,000 recipient as the second runner-up last year.

MNSSAR COLOR GUARD



The MNSSAR Color Guard posted the colors at the Sarah Steele Sibley Chapter DAR meeting held in Saint Cloud, Minnesota on December 8, 2007. The ladies in period dress are Dr. Tara Harl, Ph.D. and her daughter Allsa Harl. Dr. Harl was the prime motivator for the formation of the Sarah Steele Sibley Chapter DAR in 2005. From left to right are: Linda Hatten (Chapter President and younger sister of Paul Theisen), James Cecil Church, Allsa Harl, Paul Kent Theisen, Dr. Tara Harl, Jan Weiss and Craig Whiting.

Did George Washington Keep a Diary?

George Washington did keep diaries for much of his life. You can access them online at the Library of Congress website by going first to <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwhome.html>. From there, click on Browse the Collection and then onto the diaries.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE CONTINENTAL ARMY'S HARSHTEST WINTER: MORRISTOWN 1780

By Paul Jacob Parker Banwart – 2007 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Oftentimes when one looks at the Revolutionary War, he or she usually thinks of the battles of Bunker Hill, Trenton, and Yorktown. Most of the time, these battles are duly glorified and are credited to be the foundation of the colonial victory. However, less well-known events also played a significant role in the outcome of the American Revolutionary War. One such event took place at Morristown. It was in this town that a war was fought not on the battlefield but in the minds and hearts of the soldiers.

In Morristown, Washington's Continental Army wintered two years from January to May of 1777, after the victories at Trenton and Princeton, and from December 1779 to June 1780, documented as being "the worst winter of the 18th century". The soldiers endured the winters by living in huts at Jockey Hollow. Notables such as James McHenry, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hanson Harrison, General Nathaniel Greene, Richard Kiddler Meade, Marquis de Lafayette, and of course

General George Washington, wintered at Morristown. During their first visit, a serious outbreak of smallpox threatened the vitality of the army. To prevent an epidemic, the first mass inoculation in the history of the country was administered. In 1779, with dwindling supplies, Washington sought the comfort of the military supply depot at Fort Mifflin located in Morristown. Unlike their first stay, the army faced a battle of determination and willpower. Combating starvation and high monetary inflation, the future funding and longevity of the war was uncertain. Not only was the Continental Army faced with troublesome financial difficulties, but they also faced the test of physical endurance of the harshest winter. If it had not been for the unity and camaraderie of the soldiers, perhaps the outcome of the war might have been different.

After visiting Morristown, the National Park Service's first National Historic Park, one gains a better understanding of the

tactical superiority of Morristown's terrain. The town's geographical location was a military's dream. The Watchung Mountains and the Great Swamp provided a defensive barrier between Morristown and the British-controlled New York City. In addition, the design of the roads in Morristown provided mobility and versatility to counter any British surprise attack. Even though no battles were fought at Morristown, it provided an ideal and strategic position over the British. Not only did the colonials have superior location, but also more experienced soldiers. Despite facing a harsher winter than Valley Forge, the Continental Army suffered less than 100 casualties compared to the devastating 1,500 plus deaths at Valley Forge.

In March of 1780, George Washington declared St. Patrick's Day a holiday to honor his Irish troops. Consequently, the holiday boosted the whole army's morale and helped lead the army to future victories. With strength and

willpower to break free from the rule of Britain, the colonials were able to endure through the winters at Morristown and rally enough energy to leverage themselves to win decisive battles that would inevitably end the war. Morristown exemplifies the high cost of freedom the colonials paid in order to ensure the safety for future generations to prosper in this beloved nation. Let us not only remember Morristown as an event in history, but let us embrace the sacrifices the Continental Army made which has sustained our freedom to today.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 20, 2008. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday, September 22, 1776



INFERNO LAYS WASTE TO NEW YORK CITY



New York, NY – Near midnight on September 20, General Washington was called from his quarters to watch the smoke from a fire as it spread over the southern tip of Manhattan Island below him. Patriots who had hidden in New York after the British invasion had set three fires along the waterfront. From there they could trust the wind to spread the flames on flakes of burning shingle. The British could not ring the customary alarm, because the Americans had carted off the church bells to melt down for ammunition. Or so they had claimed. New York's fire engines also were out of commission, before the evacuation. William Howe suspected that the blaze meant a night attack and refused to let most of his men fight the fire until daylight. But a few British soldiers did patrol the streets, and when they found men in one house with firebrands the soldiers killed them and threw their bodies into the fire. The old and the sick, women and children, ran from house to house, thinking they were safe, and running out again, shriek-

ing, as the fire spread. The tower of Trinity Church made a pyramid of flame, each timber burning separately until the whole spire came crashing down. At two a.m. the wind shifted and the fire

stopped a little east of Broadway. By then, five hundred houses had been destroyed. Washington would neither take credit for the blaze nor deplore it. "Providence," he said, "or some good honest fellow, has done more for us than we were disposed to do for ourselves."

As the American troops retreated to the north, three of their officers wanted to destroy New York City. Nathaniel Green advised the commander-in-chief, "I would burn the city and the suburbs... If the enemy gets possession of the city we never can recover the possession without superior naval force to theirs." Charles Lee was of the same mind. But the commander-in-chief had already put the question to the Continental Congress in a secret communication. "I applied to Congress," Washington said, "but was absolutely forbid—that they will have cause to repent the order, I have not a moment's doubt."

Source: Patriots, by A.J. Langguth, Simon and Schuster, 1988

Washington's Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, Inc.



American spy meets death with a gentle dignity.

The next night the town was still in shock when British soldiers marched into General Howe's headquarters with a young man wearing a round broad-brimmed hat of a Dutch schoolmaster. His only identification was a Yale diploma, but the papers he was carrying proved what his mission had been. Nathan Hale had almost finished his drawings of British troop positions when a relative of his from New Hampshire recognized him at a tavern. Samuel Hale, a Tory, reported that Nathan was probably a spy, and the British made an arrest.

In the morning, Nathan Hale confessed frankly that he had been spying for General Washington. William Howe ordered him to be hanged without trial, and the execution was set for 11 a.m. in front of artillery park. A British officer who led Hale to his own tent found the American calm and behaving with a gentle dignity. Asking for pen

and paper, he wrote to his mother and to a fellow officer. Hale also asked to see a clergyman, but that request was denied.

When the hour came, Hale was taken to the gallows and the noose thrust around his neck. He addressed the spectators with great composure. It was the duty of every good soldier, Hale said, to obey any order from his commander-in-chief. He urged the British soldiers gathered around him to be ready to meet death in whatever shape it might appear. Before his death Nathan Hale repeated part of a passage from Addison's *Cato*,

*How beautiful is death,
when earn'd by virtue!
Who would not be that
youth? What pity is it that
we can die but once to serve
our country.*

Afterward, those who had heard him praised the way Nathan Hale had met his own death.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, November 1, 1776



HOLLOW BRITISH VICTORY AT WHITE PLAINS

White Plains, NY – On November 1, General Washington gathered his sick and wounded, and slipped away to Northcastle five miles to the north of White Plains. But the British stayed where they were. Howe's chagrined officers were beside themselves with frustration as their foe marched clean away almost in plain view. Colonel Charles Stuart, whose regiment helped take Chatterton's Hill, was crushed, "Is it through incapacity or by design of our Commander that so many great opportunities are let slip? I am inclined to adopt the latter."

On October 8, the Royal Navy moved up the Hudson River and stopped Americans from using it. Three days later, General Howe embarked his army on amphibious craft and small sloops in Kip's Bay and Turtle Bay and led them up the East River by boat. One boat capsized in the rough water of Hell Gate, but the rest got through. They came ashore at Throg's Neck on the mainland, north of Manhattan and about five miles from King's Bridge, the major crossing from Manhattan. If they could reach the bridge quickly, Washington's army would be trapped.

This time the British commanders made a mistake. The landing site at Throg's Neck was chosen as a compromise between the army who wanted a site farther northeast at New Rochelle where the roads were better, and the navy, who preferred Westchester Creek where the anchorage was more protected. They compromised on Throg's Neck without knowing the ground. When

the troops landed on October 12, they found Throg's Neck was a marshy island at high tide. The Americans had destroyed the bridge and causeway, and had fortified the only good ford. A small force of Edward Hand's Pennsylvania Riflemen were there again, with orders to bring down the British horses.

The morale of the American riflemen was remarkably high, given what they had recently been through. Thirty riflemen stopped the British army in their tracks, then held them while another 1,500 American infantry hurried to their support. The British Army was stymied.

The Howe's decided to withdraw the troops and try a better landing. A heavy autumn storm disrupted their plan, and it was a week before they could get their men off. Washington moved quickly. He rode out along the coast, explored other landing sites, and posted some of his regiments to defend them. On October 18, he also decided to withdraw his army from Manhattan to the mainland. They started marching with all their equipment and supplies north, to a strong position at White Plains.

On the same day, the Howe brothers retrieved their stranded troops and landed them again at Pell's Point, three miles north of Throg's Neck. Here they found John Glover's brigade of Massachusetts Continentals, posted a few days before by Washington. Glover had four small regiments: his own Marblehead mariners and county regiments commanded by Joseph Read, William Shepard, and Loammi Baldwin. All were much reduced

by illness and battle, but the men who remained were hardened veterans, and their officers were among the best in the army.

At Pell's Point, Baldwin and Glover watched the British force approach, and counted "200 sail" in four divisions. Glover and Baldwin improvised a defense. Their position was strong. The only way off the beach was by a narrow road through small fields lined with stone walls. The American commanders placed their regiments in echelon one behind the other, protected by the stone walls and very rough ground. The men were ordered to lie down until the British troops came within range, then to rise and fire volleys as fast as they could, and fall back behind the other regiments, using the walls for cover. In the first exchange the British troops received a withering fire, saw the Americans retreating, and went running after them with their bayonets, only to have another American line rise up in their faces. The British and Hessians suffered about two hundred killed and many wounded, more than they had lost on Long Island. The stubborn resistance allowed Washington to withdraw his troops north to the hills of White Plains. It also demonstrated the surprising stamina of the American troops. Even if they could not defeat the Regulars at their own game, they were learning that they could win in other ways.

Howe came after Washington and found the Americans in a strong defensive position on very high ground behind the Bronx River. A key to the position was a "rocky height"

180 feet high. Howe deployed his army and made a spectacular display of about thirteen thousand men, arrayed across a broad field on a bright autumn day—October 28. Then he ordered his Hessian troops forward. In the van were three regiments that had been doing much of the fighting: Rall's land grenadier regiment, Knyphausen's Regulars, and the Regiment von Lossberg. They launched a heavy attack and suffered severe losses before Colonel Rall found an approach on a side of the hill that the Americans had neglected to defend. He led his grenadiers forward with great courage and took Chatterton's Hill at heavy cost.

An unofficial reckoning by a British officer estimated 349 killed and wounded in his own army, probably many more. The Americans reported losing heavily as well.

Many British and Hessians accounts testified that the American troops were learning from their defeats. Lieutenant Bardeleben stated that "the rebels had excellent positions at White Plains. They had made their defenses better than usual, and maintained their posts with extraordinary tenacity."

The defeated Americans retreated in good order. The victorious British and Hessians gained the field but returned to Manhattan with a feeling that something had gone wrong.

*Source: George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.*

*Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, Inc.*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SUMMER 2008

NSSAR 118TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

John Hallberg Jones, Alternate Trustee

The 2008 National Congress of the S.A.R. was held in Sacramento, California, starting July fifth. Minnesota was represented by our National Trustee Peter Arrott Dixon and our Alternate National Trustee (and also our Secretary-Treasurer) John Hallberg Jones.

The Congress was held at the

Hyatt Regency Sacramento at Capitol Park, across the street from the beautiful State Capitol of California.

There were numerous extra events before and after the Congress, which included a Capitol View Music and Fireworks reception on the top floor of the hotel on Friday, July fourth, as well as tours of the Sacramento and Wine Country area.

The Congress started with an elegant reception at the California State Railway Museum. Busses transported the 362 in attendance to the large museum, where we viewed dozens of actual rail cars, engines, and railroad materials. The catered affair had a fine spread, including prime rib sandwiches, etc.

continued inside...

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Remembering Robert Mirick

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



...continued from page 1

Meetings and Events

The Trustees met Sunday morning and handled some minor matters, but also approved architecture and engineering studies for the new Center for Advancing American Heritage, which will include our headquarters, museum, library, and multi-media center.

Sunday afternoon was the Memorial Service at the beautiful Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, recently renovated to the extent of \$30 Million. Minnesota had one death during the past twelve months, Carl Clessler.

Throughout the day on Sunday the Historic oration contest did its preliminary rounds and the finals were Sunday evening – always a treat to listen to the talented young speakers.

Color Guards from many states were there – probably

50 participants in all. Throughout the Congress they handled flags and processions and did a magnificent job. We hope our Minnesota unit will get to future events.

The business sessions were Monday morning and afternoon, Tuesday morning, and Wednesday morning. The business was mostly handled with great dispatch, although a By-law amendment had extensive debate and wound up being tabled. It will be revised and brought up next year. The General Officers were elected as presented by the Nominating Committee. Iowa Compatriot William Lees was elected as our Vice President General for the North Central District. He has served several times in the past.

Youth Awards Luncheon and Awards Program

The Youth Awards lun-

cheon on Monday was an exciting time. Our own Paul Banwart was the first place winner in the Eagle Scout program. He read his essay and was presented with the \$6,000.00 check. The other youth programs also presented their winners.

Monday evening was the NSSAR Awards Program. The new Minutemen were inducted, bringing the total to 344 since the program started in 1952. Our own John Hallberg Jones is now the 12th senior living recipient of the award and was the second senior one in attendance. He received the award in 1985; the Minuteman medal is the highest award given by the NSSAR and is for service to the National Society. Duane L. C. M. Galles from Minnesota is our only other living recipient. (Peter Arrott Dixon is also a Minuteman, but represented the DC Soci-

ety in that award. He is a dual member of our Society.)

Minnesota was the recipient of three awards that evening: We won the Marian L. Brown Eagle Scout Award as the State Society sponsoring the national Eagle Scout Winner. The award was a certificate and spread-wing Eagle trophy. We won Honorable Mention in the Jennings H. Flathers Award to the State Society of 500 members or less with the best news publication. The award was a certificate and check for \$100.00. The certificate names our newsletter, The SAR Salute, and its editor Timothy Charles Harris. And we won the Richard H. Thompson, Jr., Award to the State Society which, at year's end, had the smallest number of members dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues. We had NO drops!



Minnesota Eagle Scout, Paul Jacob Parker Banwart, the National winner of the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program with MNSSAR Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones.



John Hallberg Jones, accepts the Jennings H. Flathers Award – Honorable Mention for the best news publication of a State Society of 500 members or less from President General Bruce A. Wilcox.



Cliff Robertson, actor and SAR member, spoke of his lengthy career as well as his pride he has in his heritage at the Tuesday evening banquet.

Of interest was the winner of the Florence Kendall Award for recruitment of the largest number of new members in the year. The winner was Larry Cornwell of the Alabama Society who recruited 65 new members in 2007. He originally joined in Minnesota and transferred to Alabama when he retired. Our loss was their gain!

Banquets

The Tuesday banquet featured an address by actor Cliff Robertson, now 83, who told of his lengthy career as well as the pride he has in his heritage. He lives on Long Island, NY, to be near his family and holds SAR membership there and also in the Sacramento Chapter. After dinner he spoke with many of the attendees. He has a collection of vintage aircraft and is still a licensed commercial pilot. As such he comes often to Duluth as there are many aircraft there of interest.

Wednesday evening was the final banquet and the installation, of the new General Officers. The meals had been outstanding throughout the event. This Hyatt is in the top five of the Hyatt chain throughout America recognized for its food service. Their morning breakfast buffet was huge! And their Sunday Champagne Brunch was an elegant affair.

Future Congresses

We now look ahead to the 2009 Congress in Atlanta, GA.. It will start on Saturday, July 4th. The Congresses after 2009 will start either a week before or a week after July 4th so SAR groups can participate in local events.

As an aside, Comp. Jones travelled by train to the event, going through Glacier Park, then down the Columbia River to Portland, Oregon, then through the high Sierras to Sacramento. Many forest fires brought smoke and haze conditions near Sacramento. The return trip was through the Colorado Rockies to Chicago, viewing the extreme flooding along the Mississippi River near Burlington, IA, truly a sad situation with thousands of acres under water. The only way to see the extent of the damage is by train, as the roads in the area remain flooded. The train had been unable to run from Denver to Chicago for about 3 weeks. The trip continued from Chicago home to Minneapolis, where there was flooding in Wisconsin between Milwaukee and Madison which had shut down train service a few weeks earlier.

In all, this was a fine Congress and wonderful trip.

2008 MNSSAR

MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

ROTC Awards by the Minnesota Society

We had medals presented in all fourteen Junior ROTC Units (High Schools) and all seven ROTC Units (Colleges). The presentations were made by Marvin Stonecipher, Hon. David S. Bouschor, James C. Church, James F. Foster, Robert Smith III, Timothy C. Harris, Larry W. Sisk, and John Hallberg Jones. We appreciate the support of our Compatriots in making these presentations.

ROTC medals are presented to cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

In 2008 the Minneapolis Chapter presented medals in 26 high schools and the Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets. A new school this year was the Minnetonka Christian Academy. Compatriot John Hallberg Jones did the presentations at Minnetonka Christian Academy and at Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson. The Joneses added a scholarship check to the award at Maplewood Academy, as they did last



year as well. The other awards were all done by faculty members at the schools. Medals were also awarded to twelve 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*.

Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR for showing their patriotism and love of country. This years recipients, all from White Bear Lake, were:

- Antiques White Bear Inc.
- Associated TV & Appliance Services
- The Farmers Daughter Antiques
- Twin City Nursery
- White Bear Bowl



Remembering Long Time Mem- ber, Robert Mirick



Past President, Robert Bicknell Mirick passed away on March 28, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Donna, sons Jim and Dusty, daughters-in-law Mary and Zella and grandchildren Gudren, Nora, Sarah, Edward, Rob and great-granddaughter, Zoe. Bob was president of Sanitary Farm Dairies and formerly of Pillsbury. He was a Shriner and a Jester and a member of the Minnesota Mayflower Society and St. Paul Kiwanis Club. Bob served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was 91 years old.

Following is the Now & Then article as edited from the Winter 2000 issue of the MNSSAR Salute.

NEXT MEETING:

Saturday, September 20, 2008 at Jax Cafe – watch for details in the mail.

NOW & THEN

Robert Bicknell Mirick, Past President of the Minnesota Society SAR, a native of Minneapolis, joined the Minnesota Society in 1990 when John Jones recruited him. His mother was in the DAR and his father was in the SAR. Bob's parents discovered after they were married that they were sixth cousins – both being descended from Thomas and Hannah (Emerson) Duston.

Bob was also a member of the Mayflower Descendants, the National Huguenot Society, the Minneapolis Engineer's Club, the Saint Paul Engineer's Society and the Saint Paul Downtown Kiwanis Club.

Bob graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA, in 1939 with a BS in Electrical Engineering. He was employed in the Engineering Department of Pillsbury Mills in Minneapolis from 1939 to 1953, except for active duty in the Naval Reserve from 1942 to 1945, spending most of that time on a destroyer

tender in the central Pacific in charge of Radio, Radar and Underwater Sound Repair Shop. In 1953 Bob was employed as an electrical engineer, retiring after twenty years at Sanitary Farm Dairies in Saint Paul.

Bob has eight ancestors who fought for American independence:

- Elisha Mirick, Sergeant, MA
- Aaron Himrod, Private, PA
- Simon Himrod, Lieutenant, Patriot
- Robert Latimer, Private, PA
- Nathan Bicknell, Private, NH
- William Kelley, Sub Lieutenant., PA
- Jonathan Duston, Minuteman, MA
- Eliphalet Dustin, Corporal, NH

Bob Mirick joined the SAR to honor his ancestor from his father's side, Eliphalet Dustin. Eliphalet Dustin was born in 1750 and married Janet McColom in 1774.

The following is taken from the *Duston-Dustin Family Genealogy—Fifth Generation*: "Eliphalet probably came to Frances-

town, NH from Londonderry, NH in 1776 or 1777. Here he built a log house in the forest, and here he and his wife lived and raised a family, holding out in the face of such privations as are common to pioneers, and finally gaining a competence. Eliphalet Dustin was in Captain William Boye's Company, Col. Kelley's Regiment in 1778."

On his mother's side, Bob's Revolutionary War ancestor is Jonathan Duston, a cousin of Eliphalet. "Jonathan Duston, Corporal, served during the French and English War. 1744-48, with Haverhill, Massachusetts men from April 18, to November 30, 1848, stationed at Scarborough. He was also at Crown Point Expedition 1755-56. He marched with the Haverhill Company on the alarm of April 19, 1775. [He served 36 months in Captain James Sawyer's Company, Col. James Frye's Regiment.] After the Revolution he removed to Canaan, NH where he became a proprietor."

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday, November 17, 1776



DISASTER AT FORT WASHINGTON

Manhattan Island, NY – Yesterday, at daybreak, General Howe's army launched their assault. As was worthy of a tactician as skillful as William Howe, the assault was a masterpiece. Actually it was an amphibious operation, some thirteen thousand soldiers having to cross both the Harlem and Hudson rivers in flatboats or transports before they could begin clawing their way up the heights.

Knyphausen's Hessians, although striking at the weakest point, had to move over the most difficult terrain. At first they faced near-vertical cliffs. When Colonel Johann Rall shouted to his men "All you that are my grenadiers, march forwards" the oboes blew once more and the Germans swept forward eagerly chanting their hymns. Gradually, the music and song subsided until it was no longer audible, for the attackers could not waste their breath while clutching at stones and bushes for handholds as they struggled upward under a withering fire. Even Knyphausen had to endure this ordeal. Most of the American fire came from Pennsylvania riflemen at the clifftops. At first the riflemen took a terrible toll, but then their fire slackened, for their beautiful hunting rifles with their narrow tapering barrels were not designed for sustained fire, and the sharpshooters from the Keystone State, without the hunter's customary leisure to clean his weapon, soon were fighting with clogged rifles. Gradually, the Germans prevailed with Knyphausen and Rall converging, moving against the main American position at the top of the ravine. Americans trying to

surrender were granted no quarter but the cold steel of a Hessian bayonet.

Lords Percy's and Cornwallis's forces successfully landed in the south from British transports in the Harlem River. Militia posted to defend the riverbank fled after their commander was killed. But other rebels on Laurel Hill resisted with heavy fire—only to be driven back into the Fort Washington redoubt. With Howe's three-sided front moving inexorably against almost three thousand Americans packed into their fort like cattle in a pen, Knyphausen decided to demand the fort's surrender. He ordered a captain to tie a white handkerchief to a musket barrel and advance upon the fort waving this flag of parley preceded by a drummer boy.

Colonel Magaw, the fort's defender, was very much aware of his peril when confronted by the enemy captain. Planning to escape that night with most of his men, he asked for a five-hour truce. The captain said no. A half hour. That was all. Otherwise the massacre would commence. With a sigh, Magaw surrendered. All the survivors—American losses were only 130 killed and wounded against 128 for the British and 326 for the Hessians—so that Howe's bag was nearly 3,000 soldiers, 161 cannons, 400,000 cartridges, two months' provisions and, of course, the rebel soldier's weapons.

In the weeks leading up to the assault on Fort Washington, General Washington began to ponder his opponent's next move. He decided that Howe was going to invade

New Jersey and perhaps also strike Fort Washington in northern Manhattan, the post across the Hudson opposite Fort Lee. So he divided his forces, leaving 11,000 men in Westchester under Charles Lee and marching with another 2,500 soldiers into New Jersey.

But he was still concerned about Fort Washington, with its garrison of two thousand men under Colonel Robert Magaw. Once again, the American commanders could not agree on what to do. Washington wanted to abandon the fort and pointed out that it was unable to stop British ships from passing up and down the Hudson River. Nathaniel Greene wanted to keep it. He argued that the fort could not easily be captured, that the garrison could be ferried over the Hudson if need be, and that they tied down many British troops. Washington gave way to Greene, against his better judgement. It was a major error. The fort was impressive at first sight. It stood on a precipice 280 feet above the water's edge, with rivers on three sides and massive fortifications on the landward side.

But in fact it was highly vulnerable. A British officer observed that the fortifications were "too extensive for the number of troops as was generally the case with Americans, who were indefatigable in constructing redoubts." The outer works were more than a mile in extent, far beyond the strength of its garrison, mostly Pennsylvania state levies and militia, with some Maryland and Virginia riflemen and Connecticut men.

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ies, well stocked with guns and ammunition, and a two-month supply of dry provisions. But it had no well; water had to be brought up from the rivers below. The senior officers, Colonel Robert Magaw and Lieutenant Colonel Lambert Caldwell; were good men, but they were betrayed by an American traitor. On the night of November 2, adjutant William Demont sneaked out of the fort and delivered its plans to the British commanders, along with much helpful information about the intentions of the Americans and the strengths and weaknesses of their defenses.

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M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute

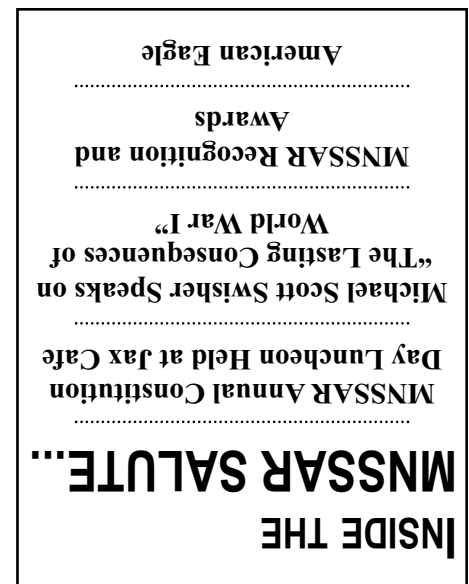


THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2008



MNSSAR CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The annual Constitution Day Luncheon was held jointly by the Minnesota SR and SAR at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 20, 2008. A pamphlet announcing the arrival of NSSAR's Center for Advancing America's Heritage was placed at everyone's table setting. The Minnesota Society SAR President, Marvin Stonecipher (Stoney) welcomed those in attendance. Minnesota SR President John Hallberg Jones welcomed all on behalf of the SR and explained the differences between the two groups. The Minnesota SAR Color Guard presented the colors. SAR/SR Vice President James F. Foster led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag, President Stonecipher led the Pledge to the SAR, and COL Ronald McRoberts gave the invocation. A delicious meal with each ordering from the menu was enjoyed by all. The total attendance was 35.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MICHAEL SCOTT SWISHER SPEAKS AT THE ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Michael Scott Swisher, Past President of the Minnesota SAR and Minnesota SR, among many offices in lineage societies, presented a most scholarly address on *"The Lasting Legacy of World War I."* Below are excerpts from his dissertation:

Most Americans, if asked which was the more significant, World War I or World War II, would probably answer the Second. They would have some good reasons for so doing – American involvement in that war was longer, American casualties were greater, and the war was fought in a vast Pacific theatre as well as on the Old World battlefields of the First World War. Above all, the cause of America's involvement in the Second World War, namely the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, is clear and still well remembered. By contrast, probably not one in one hundred citizens could identify the reasons for the United States's declaration of war on the Central Powers in April of 1917.

The nineteenth century was an age of imperial expansion.

The British and the French had been colonial powers since the seventeenth century, and continued to expand their possessions – Britain held India, parts of sub-Saharan Africa, and its colonies in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, settled by British immigrants, achieved self-governing status while retaining their ties to the Crown. France had African, Caribbean, and Southeast Asian colonies. Even smaller powers, like the Netherlands in the East Indies or Portugal in Africa, had significant overseas possessions. To this competition for colonial dominion, the relatively new nation-states of Germany and Italy were latecomers.

Germany acquired some African colonies, Tanganyika and Southwest Africa; but the grand stratagem of Wilhelm's colonial policy was to compete with the jewel in Britain's crown, India. To this end, Wilhelm cultivated the friendship of the Turkish sultan, Abdul-Hamid II, execrated as a despot by all the other European powers. Wilhelm proclaimed himself a protector of Islam as early as 1898.

German militarism and expansionism created a volatility in Europe that was primed to explode at the slightest incident, and this found its release on June 28, 1914, with the assassination of the Austrian heir-apparent, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, at Sarajevo. Aus-

tria-Hungary saw this as an act of war by Serbia. Serbia, in turn, brought into the war its Russian ally, and by the activation of a series of alliances, most of Europe, including England and France, was at war within a month. Imperial Germany, like Napoleonic France a century earlier, now found itself involved in a war on two European fronts. It is to this desperate circumstance that so many of its disastrous political and diplomatic initiatives in pursuit of the war originated, and their consequences continue to haunt us today.

The entry of the United States into the war was decisive in turning the tide for the Allies. The final armistice with Germany, which we commemorate as Veterans' Day, was signed on November 11, 1918.

In short, the after-effects of World War I changed the map of Europe, ended a thousand years of monarchical/aristocratic rule, ushered the present age of ideology, and led to ongoing turmoil there for seventy-five years. But this is far from being the end!

The denouement of World War I in the Middle East put France and Britain in the position of Bialystock and Bloom. How could the promises made to the Arabs by Lawrence and Allenby – to the Zionists by the Balfour Declaration – and by Sykes and Picot to their respective countries – all be honored? It is hard to conceive

that all these agreements could have been made in the realistic expectation that the Ottoman Empire, which had since the fall of the Abbasids maintained some sort of peace and order in the region, would collapse completely and leave the Allies in a position where they were expected to deliver. While Islamic militants are quite conscious of history, and point to all sorts of grievances including the medieval Crusades, or the loss of "al-Andalus" (Spain – in 1492!), it is clearly to the aftermath of World War I that they owe their most recent and bitterest ones.

The United States had no direct involvement in the Middle East during World War I, but just as was the case with the war's consequences in Europe, it has been left in the unenviable position of dealing with them in this part of the world. The war's great significance as an historic turning point can be seen in that the world remains unsettled by its effects. It has not been made "safe for democracy," as Woodrow Wilson so naively hoped, and shows no sign of returning to its pre-1914 stability any time soon.

Following his talk, Michael Swisher was presented with the National Society SAR Certificate of Distinguished Service.



MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR RECOGNITION AND AWARDS



The Minnesota Society SAR welcomed new members with certificates and rosettes. Present was Douglas Allen (left). Compatriot Truck Morrison accepted the certificate and rosette for his son-in-law Mark Bendickson. James Foster and Steven Vescelus (center) were presented certificates for supplemental applications.

Three Compatriots were announced as having 25 years of membership: Stephen John Ernest, Harold Oscar Hanson, and David John Jones. Their certificates and pins will be mailed, as none were able to be present. Life member pins were presented to John Hallberg Jones, Michael Scott



Swisher, Duane L.C.M. Galles, Thomas Truxtun Morrison, and Ronald Edward McRoberts. Compatriot Morrison also accepted the pins for members of his family who also are Life members: Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Jr., The Rev. Henry Terry Morrison, Jr., and Mark Stephen Bendickson. Others will be mailed. The Minnesota Society has 17 Life Members of our total of 144 members, over twice the national average.

John Hallberg Jones reported on the National Congress, indicating that the Minnesota Society had received numerous awards, including having the national winner in the Eagle



Scout contest. They have been reported in the Summer 2008 SAR Salute, our newsletter. Compatriot Timothy C. Harris (right) was cited as having been the key player in the Eagle Scout program and the Newsletter, both having won awards. The Eagle Trophy was presented to him for his efforts. In addition, he was presented the Silver Good Citizenship Medal for his continuing service to the Minnesota Society.

MNSSAR COLOR GUARD



The Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard performed color guard services at the Naturalization Ceremony held at Saint Cloud City Hall. The Sarah Steele Sibley Chapter DAR sponsored the event on Wednesday, August 20, 2008. Compatriots Paul Kent Theisen and James Cecil Church are pictured above.

NEXT MEETING

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2009

Location: To be determined. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

2009 DUES NOTICE

2009 Dues Notices have been mailed but it has an error. The notice reads that the "2009 dues are due in our hands by 31 December 2009." Of course it should read by **31 December 2008**.

AMERICAN EAGLE

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SAR Salute



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MNSSAR 120TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

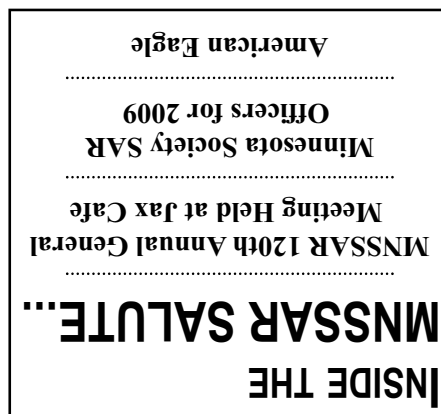


Minneapolis, Minnesota
– The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual general meetings at Jax Cafe on January 10, 2009. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The society was called to order by President Marvin Eugene Stonecipher. MNSSAR Vice President James Foster led the Pledge to the US flag. President Stonecipher read the pledge to the SAR and compatriot Col. Ronald McRoberts gave the invocation.

Compatriot Foster noted that this was our 120th anniversary, the Minnesota Society having been founded on 26 December 1889. During the meeting Secretary John Hallberg Jones displayed the MNSSAR Centennial Registry book, published by

Continued inside...



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

the Minnesota Society in 1989, and distributed free to all members that year. Extra copies were offered for sale and many were sold throughout the meeting.

The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Vice President Robert Kahl in the absence of President Lundblad due to a business conflict. Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 26 area high schools in 2008, including a new school in the program. Also in 2008 a presentation was again done at a unit of Naval Sea Cadets.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Secretary-Treasurer Jones will investigate how the Hennepin County Library funds its membership in Heritage Quest, to determine if the Minneapolis chapter should extend support for that valuable service.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter President, Ronald Edward McRoberts, called the meeting to order. Noting that the Saint Paul Chapter has a much smaller trea-

sure than the Minneapolis Chapter, President Ronald McRoberts made a generous donation of \$100 to the Saint Paul Chapter and solicited others to follow suit. Compatriot James Foster expressed similar sentiments.

Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2008 and their students were presented with medals the past May.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2008. President McRoberts stated that he too presented a Flag Certificate in his home town of Herman, Minnesota noting that the local cemetery flies the flag throughout the cemetery to commemorate the holidays.

Minnesota Society Membership

During 2008 we had 10 new members, 1 reinstatement, 2 deaths, and 1 resigned, giving a net increase of 8, for a membership of 138, plus 4 dual members. Compatriot Jones indicated our median age for members is now 61 and the median length of time of membership is 13 years.

Mention was made of

our newest member, Kenneth Crooks Davis, who lives in Singapore. He was unable to be in attendance and his certificate, Life Membership Certificate and Emblem will be sent to him. A Supplemental Certificate was presented to Arthur Louis Finnell. A rosette was presented to Jonathan Gustafson, as he was attending his first meeting.

MNSSAR Endowment Trust Fund

The Trustees of the SAR Endowment Trust Fund proposed that the 2008 interest of \$575.39 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$50.00, MN Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of MN \$40.00, MN Genealogical Journal \$24.50 and the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. \$100.00 and the balance of \$305.89 to the MNSSAR Color Guard.

MNSSAR Contests and Awards

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the 14 JROTC units and the 7 ROTC units in Minnesota. Several Compatriots have assisted with the presentations over the last few years and many spoke of their experiences at these ceremonies and their

desire to do this service again.

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to 977 new Eagle Scouts in 2008 and has received 19 entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting.

MNSSAR Color Guard

Compatriot Paul Kent Theisen reported for the Minnesota SAR Color Guard. He appeared in uniform at this meeting. The group have made several appearances already and have additional plans, such as visitation/wakes for deceased members, etc. He asked for more volunteers to serve in this outstanding unit.

Installation of Officers

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Compatriot Jones. The new MNSSAR President, James Foster, presented the Past President's Certificate and Pin to Compatriot Stonecipher. The Saint Paul Chapter and Minneapolis Chapter presented the same for their societies.



2009 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President.....James Fredrick Foster
Vice President COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
Chancellor Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
Historian/Newsletter Editor Timothy Charles Harris, PP
Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
Surgeon Dr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
Chaplain The Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork
Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Victor William E. Miller

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church	Stephen John Ernest
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.	Curtis John Oliver
Marvin Eugene Stonecipher	Michael Scott Swisher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers:

(up to 20 members, in addition to the above.)

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Charles Edward Boyles
Tracy Ashley Crocker	Peter Arrott Dixon
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	William Arthur Harris, Sr.
Hon. William Raymond Johnson	Robert Edward Kahl, II
Mark Allen Labine	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
Robert Arthur Minish	Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
John Charles Sassaman	Larry Wray Sisk
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	Robert Leslie Smith, III
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen John Vescelus

SAR Endowment Trust Fund: (three year terms)

Trustee ending January 2010 John Hallberg Jones, PP
Trustee ending January 2011 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
Trustee ending January 2012 Michael Scott Swisher, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Atlanta, GA in July 2009:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Robert Edward Kahl, II
Vice President Rehn Douglas Smith
Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
Chaplain The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
Board of Managers.....Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
Tracy Ashley Crocker
Timothy Charles Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

James Cecil Church
William Leslie DeCoursey
Arthur Louis Finnell
Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.
Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
Michael Scott Swisher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Larry Larson Warren
Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....Larry Wray Sisk
Vice President Robert Leslie Smith, III
Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher
Board of Managers.....Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
James Fredrick Foster
COL Ronald Edward McRoberts

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Lexington Restaurant on Saturday, February 21, 2009. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. MNSSAR Vice-President, Col. Ronald McRoberts will speak about Stephen Taylor, the only revolutionary soldier buried in Minnesota.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday, November 21, 1776



BRITISH CAPTURE FORT LEE

Hackensack, New Jersey – The day after the fall of Fort Washington British Commander Sir William Howe sent General Cornwallis with five thousand men across the Hudson River to take Fort Lee.

Yesterday Cornwallis's light infantry burst through the fort's gates with leveled bayonets and loaded muskets. They found a mostly abandoned fort. Fort Lee was not a massive fortification like Fort Washington. The main part of it was an armed camp, with separate batteries on the cliffs overlooking the Hudson River. The British troops found the fort in shambles. The road to the west was littered with the debris of a fleeing army. Inside the fort, Cornwallis and his men found a few drunken stragglers and vast quantities of supplies. Left behind were nine hundred tents, all of the American army's entrenching tools, much heavy artillery, and an immense store of provisions.

The invasion of New Jersey began with a night river crossing, another extraordinary feat of soldering. On the evening of November 18, the Royal Navy delivered a flotilla of landing barges and doubled-ended bateaux, passing the enemy's posts undiscovered on the Hudson River.

The next day General Howe's headquarters issued marching orders to twelve battalions of assault troops. Their orders came late in the day to strike tents, load wagons, and be ready to march at nine o'clock on the evening of November 19. Every effort was made to preserve secrecy. Nothing was revealed about the destination. Cornwallis

waited for complete darkness. Then he led the light infantry, the British grenadiers, his own Thirty-third Foot and the Forty-second Highlanders to the waters of Spuyten Duyvil, where they boarded the boats.

At about eleven o'clock they started across the Hudson River. When they were on the water, a cold November rain began to fall. One light infantry officer remembered being "soaked to the skin by thick heavy rain." On the great river a dense fog arose. The troops in their barges and bateaux glided through it as silently as ghosts.

As the British force approached the Jersey shore, an officer in the lead company peered anxiously through the mist. Lieutenant Henry Strike of the Tenth Light Infantry was amazed to discover that they had landed at the foot of huge vertical cliffs, rising high above the water and extending along the river as far as he could see. These were the New Jersey Palisades, a formidable obstacle. Lieutenant Strike was ordered to lead his company forward and "push up the hill, with as much expedition as possible," then "to take post; and maintain it till sustained." His men began to climb in the darkness, through rain and mist. They found themselves on a steep and slippery trail about four feet wide, with a grade of fifty degrees in some places. The ground must have been treacherous in the night, with rain cascading down the rocks.

The light infantry reached the top, ready for a fight, and found that the Palisades were entirely unguarded at that point. The American General Nathaniel Greene had posted

guards on other parts of the Palisades, but they had missed this place.

Cornwallis's force followed Strike's company in single file up the narrow trail. It took them much of the night, as the boats shuttled back and forth across the river; At daybreak another wave of Hessians and guards crossed. The second wave had an easier passage on the water in daylight but a harder task at the Palisades, where they were ordered to bring up the artillery: eight field guns, four three-pounders, two six-pounders, and two howitzers, which with their carriages weighed two thousand pounds. Gunners, sappers, soldiers, and seamen worked together, hauling the guns and limbers and ammunition boxes up the face of the steep cliff by brute force. The trail was impassable for artillery horses. At the top of the Palisades the men hauled the guns forward with drag ropes.

Once again, with a good plan and skillful execution, British and Hessian forces achieved tactical surprise, even though the American leaders knew that an attack was coming. Even after they landed, nobody discovered them at the Palisades, though, two thousand American troops were still at Fort Lee only a few miles south of the crossing point.

The British infantry quickly established a perimeter and began to send out patrols. At last they were observed. It was ten o'clock in the morning when an American officer galloped up to General Washington's headquarters in Hackensack with the news that the British were over the river.

George Washington was instantly in motion, and his first thought was to get his troops away from Fort Lee. After the disaster at Fort Washington, he could not lose another garrison that way. Urgent orders went to the fort, ordering the troops to leave instantly and march west across the Hackensack River.

When the news of the British landing reached the fort, American discipline collapsed. Some of the men stopped to eat a leisurely breakfast, as if it were their last meal. Others broke into the rum supply. Many scattered into the woods. Washington and Greene galloped to the scene, got most of the men together in a column, and started them marching westward toward New-Bridge over the Hackensack River.

On the Palisades, Cornwallis formed his men in two columns and led them south at a quick march toward Fort Lee. Captain Johann Ewald's company and Hessian Jagers was sent out to cover the advancing army's right flank. Captain Ewald looked ahead and saw "a great glitter of bayonets and a cloud of dust in the distance." It was the garrison of Fort Lee marching toward New-Bridge. Cornwallis allowed the American troops to march away and took his troops to Fort Lee.

*Source: George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.*

*Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, Inc.*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2009



PATRIOT'S DAY COMMEMORATION AT THE HISTORIC FORT SNELLING VETERANS MEMORIAL CHAPEL

On Sunday, April 19th, the members of the MNSSAR and the Son of the Revolution in the state of Minnesota gathered at the historic Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel to commemorate Patriot's Day. The commemoration payed tribute to the service and sacrifice our ancestor's endured on this day 234 years ago when they answered the alarms of Lexington, Concord and Roxbury.

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The Battle of Cowpens: The
Greatest Patriot Victory

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society
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2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743



PATRIOT'S DAY COMMEMORATION



Fort Snelling, MN – On April 19, 2009 The MNSSAR and S.R. of Minnesota commemorated Patriot's Day by worshipping with the regular parishioners of the Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel. Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr. emphasized that this day – Patriot's Day – marked the anniversary or the beginning of the American Revolutionary War. He quoted Patrick Henry, George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson during his sermon. The MNSSAR Color Guard helped open the service by posting the colors.

The Chapel was dedicated on June 10, 1928. It was noted in the bulletin that in 1928 the SAR donated the chapel pulpit as a gift in

memory in memory of the participants of the American Revolution.

The military post was deactivated in 1946 and later the Chapel was scheduled to be demolished to make room for the highways that now crisscross the area. The Chapel fell into disuse and was subject to vandalism. The Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation was formed in 1966 to keep the original purposes of the Chapel alive.

All who are interested in Minnesota history will enjoy the more than 80 memorials found throughout the Chapel: One of the stained glass windows bears the coat of arms of the Third U.S. Infantry, oldest in the U.S. Army, whose installation

was at Fort Snelling; The many colorful flags on display represent Minnesotan units; Windows honor pioneer military leaders and churchmen, including Gideon and Samuel Pond, who came to the fort in 1834 as missionaries to Indians; The wood carvings, regimental symbols and more make worship at the Chapel an experience filled with memories of Minnesota's rich history; The marble baptismal font is a memorial to Elizabeth R. Snelling, daughter of Col. Josiah Snelling who designed Fort Snelling and served as its commandant from 1820 to 1824. The font is carved from her original tombstone. Her remains are interned outside the front door.

HUTCHINSON EAGLE SCOUT HONORED



Robert Brett Rasmussen received the Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy at the Patriot's Day Commemoration held at the Historic Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel. He is shown standing near the pulpit donated by the SAR.

Robert Brett Rasmussen, of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy as the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Bobby, from Hutchinson, Minnesota, was honored at the Patriot's Day Commemoration at the historic Fort Snelling Chapel. His mother and father were also in attendance. His patriotic essay entitled *Battle of Cowpens: The Greatest Patriot Victory* is presented on the back of this newsletter.

Bobby's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Ken-

tucky to compete with other state winners for an \$8,000 scholarship. \$4,000 and \$2,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen. This year's national winner was Gerrit S. Bakker, the Michigan Society candidate. The first and second runners-up were Shawn A. Goldsmith from New York and Samuel A. Cain, II from North Carolina.

The MNSSAR has had three first place Eagle Scouts, including Bobby's brother John in 2005.

GEORGE WASHINGTON OBSERVANCE AND LUNCHEON

Saint Paul, MN – On February 21, 2009 thirty-three members of the Minnesota Society, along with eleven spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon. A delicious meal with entree choice of Beef Stroganoff, Chicken Vescuvio, or Wall-eye Almondine, followed by a Lemon Torte dessert was enjoyed by all. The total attendance was 44.

The colors were posted by the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard.

Minnesota SAR President and Minnesota SR President James Fredrick Foster welcomed all in attendance. Compatriot Bill Thomas offered the invocation, reciting a prayer offered during the first Continental Congress in October, 1774.

MNSSAR Secretary-Treasurer, John Hallberg Jones, displayed a Bicentennial Brass Belt Buckle from the SAR, received from the estate of our late Compatriot Charles Albert Stuck, which was offered for a donation of \$100 to the MNSSAR Endowment Trust Fund. Oklahoma Compatriot Bill

Tomb purchased it.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones introduced our member Douglas Allen, who recently was elected National President of Theta Chi Fraternity. He also introduced Bill Tomb, a recent member of the Oklahoma Society SAR, who is living in Eagan for two years. He then told of a new member Douglas Martin Stewart, who was unable to be present.

John Jones then announced the recent membership of Frank Totton Heffelfinger II, registered on February 6, 2009. Compatriot Heffelfinger died at age 86 just three days later. His son, Frank Totton Heffelfinger III was present and accepted the Certificate of Membership, Life Membership Certificate, and special

Life Member Emblem on behalf of his late father.

Our speaker, COL Ronald McRoberts, was unavoidably detained in Amsterdam, Holland, and was unable to be present. He will do his program on "Stephen Taylor – our Minnesota Patriot Ancestor" at our next meeting.

Compatriot Jones then led the group having each tell of his revolutionary ancestor. Several embellished their remarks with some background on their ancestor.

Compatriots John Jones, James Foster, and Marvin Stonecipher then made brief remarks on Stephen Taylor, as a teaser for the fall meeting.

George Washington Tidbits . . .

- Washington was the only founding father to free his slaves.
- Washington's second inaugural address was the shortest ever delivered – 135 words.
- The nation's capital, along with one state, 31 counties and 17 cities (Maybe 18 counting the town of "George," in central Washington State) are named in his honor.
- He is credited with introducing the mule to America.
- He was the first Mason to serve as president.



THE BATTLE OF COWPENS: THE GREATEST PATRIOT VICTORY

By Robert Brett Rasmussen – 2008 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Yorktown. Lexington. Concord. Bunker Hill. Saratoga.

The colonial bid for freedom resulted in well-documented battles in strategic locations and near key military landmarks from the cold of Canada to the sun-drenched fields of Georgia. Yet of all the Revolutionary War battles, the most important may have taken place in a back country area where cattle roamed freely and only houses, crops and gardens were fenced in. In the wake of major British triumphs at Charleston and Camden, the Battle of Cowpens may have been the most important piece of the puzzle in the colonist's bid for freedom from England.

By the late 1700s, Britain had blockaded most of the northern colonies and had shifted its focus to the south. Having captured Savannah, Georgia in 1778, the British strategy was to secure the remainder of Georgia and then make a path northward through the Carolinas and Virginias. By mid-1780, the British had

established key outposts in both South Carolina and Georgia but suffered a serious setback in early October when Patriot militia surrounded and defeated a loyalist army of over 1,000 men at Kings Mountain, S.C. The momentum was building for another key conflict on Jan. 17, 1781.

At the suggestion of militia leaders, Brigadier General Daniel Morgan planned to do battle at a road junction known as "the Cowpens." Morgan's colonial contingent included over 1,000 militia from the Carolinas and Georgia; 80 calvarymen; and 600 experienced Continentals and Virginia militia. The British countered with 1,100 well-trained troops under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton.

In planning for the battle, Morgan followed a three-tier defensive plan made popular by 18th-century European warfare. The first line of defense? A skirmish line of just over 100 militia. After contact with the British troops, the militia was to fall back 150 yards to the second posi-

tion, which consisted of the remaining militia under the command of Colonel Andrew Pickens. After firing two volleys at the British at a distance of 50 yards, the militia was to retreat another 150 yards to a position near the Continental army under the command of Colonel John Eager Howard. Morgan's plan was aided by the Cowpens' terrain, which put his men downhill from the advancing British and increased their tendency to shoot high. In addition, the downhill position forced the British forces to be silhouetted against the morning sunlight and provided easy targets for the Patriot sharp-shooters.

Morgan's strategy worked to perfection and left the British troops fleeing and surrendering. Two months later, the British suffered more casualties at Guilford Courthouse and were forced to backtrack to Virginia where they were eventually surrounded at Yorktown by a combined French and Patriot contingent led by General George Washington.

The Battle of Cowpens

was an important event in the Revolutionary War. It showed the ingenuity, resolve and spirit of the American people and put an end to the British swagger and their feeling of invincibility. It showed the Americans were a strong fighting force. More importantly, it exemplified the spirit and patriotism of the American people – attributes that served the rebels well during the remainder of the revolution. The same spirit has been the trademark of our country for more than 200 years and will continue to keep America strong for future generations.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 19, 2009. Luncheon will feature a menu from the Revolutionary War era.

Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



Remembering Long Time Mem- ber, James Church



Past President, James Cecil Church passed away on April 23, 2009, his peaceful passing witnessed by his loving family. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Donna, one son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

Jim was a past president of the Minneapolis Chapter and the Minnesota Society and was one of the founding members of the Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard. In the last few weeks the MNSSAR presented him with the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal at a bedside ceremony attended by his wife and their children.

Following is the Now & Then article as edited from the Autumn 1998 issue of the MNSSAR Salute.

NOW & THEN

James Cecil Church, joined the Sons of the American Revolution to obtain certification of his seven Revolutionary War patriot ancestors.

We all remember his presentation at the George Washington Dinner in February, 1998 of his weekend visit to Windsor Castle as a member of the Society of the Descendants of the Knights of the Garter. James is a member of many hereditary societies including: National Society of Americans of Royal Descent, Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States, General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Descendants of Founders of New Jersey, Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor, Society of the Lees of Virginia, and the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America.

James and his wife, Donna, cut their 53rd notch this month. They have two sons and two daughters. Sadly their youngest son passed away this past May. Their children have produced five grandchildren – one boy and four girls.

When the call to patriotism called on James, he interrupted his studies at

the College of Engineering, University of Wisconsin to join the Army in 1943. As a corporal in a tank recovery unit, James Church experienced first hand the horrors of World War II. He fought from the Normandy Invasion through the Battle of the Bulge to the end of the war.

After the war he returned to the 'U' under the G.I. Bill. In 1949 he received his B.S. in electrical engineering. During the 1950s he worked at Aerospace Corp., which had been contracted by the U.S. Air Force to develop several "hush-hush" unmanned satellite programs. Then in 1961 when President Kennedy committed the U.S. to landing a man on the moon James accepted a position as a senior manager in the emerging Apollo Spacecraft Program Office. After NASA, James worked at Honeywell's Space Flight Systems Division in Minneapolis until it was disbanded. He then became head of ergonomics research for the U.S. Bureau of Mines' Twin Cities Research Center. James retired in 1985, but remains as busy as ever with his family's genealo-

gy and hereditary societies including the SAR.

As mentioned, James has seven Revolutionary War ancestors:

- Lemuel Church. (CT) Private in Capt. Wolcutts' company of the 2nd Connecticut's Regiment of Foot.
- Isaac Cecil (MD/VA) was a Private in the 13th Virginia Regiment.
- Daniel Axtell. (PA) Private in Capt. John Miller's 8th Co. of the Pennsylvania Militia's 1st Battalion.
- Margaret (Eskridge) Kenner (VA). Her father was General George Washington's namesake and the guardian of the General's mother.
- Dr. Timothy Hosmer (CT) enlisted as a surgeon in Col. Return J. Meigs' 6th Connecticut Regiment.
- Private Willard Sears (CT) enlisted as a Private in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army. His father...
- Capt. Elkana Sears (CT) was a colonial sea Captain who preyed on heavily armed British ships to furnish much needed supplies to Washington's Continental Army.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday, December 9, 1776



BRITISH CONTROL NEW JERSEY AND RHODE ISLAND

Philadelphia, Penn. — Yesterday the British entered Trenton, New Jersey. As the British and Hessian troops reached the Delaware River at Trenton, the capital city of Philadelphia was less than a day's march away. Its inhabitants gave way to a full-blown panic. Martial law has been declared in the city, and General Israel Putnam was given summary powers to maintain order.

Following the capture of Fort Lee, as night fell on November 20, the American troops crossed the Hackensack River and entered the village of Hackensack. Washington posted guards at the crossing points over the Hackensack River; and stayed the night in Peter Zabriskies's house. With him were about four thousand Continentals and militia, who were camped in the village — without their tents which were left behind at Fort Lee.

The British army was not far behind. The next morning the light infantry and Jagers came up to New-Bridge, about two miles north of the village. The American rear guard occupied houses on both sides of the river and put up a sharp fight at the bridge. Cornwallis's vanguard discovered to their surprise Washington's ragged men did not behave like a beaten army. At New-Bridge they fought doggedly. In spite of this the post was forced, and the greater part were killed, wounded or captured. In other skirmishes along the road, small parties of American infantry resisted stubbornly against heavy odds.

Cornwallis continued his pursuit in a carefully measured way. He paused at New-

Bridge while more troops came up. Howe sent him two more infantry brigades and elements of a third, plus the very useful troopers of the Sixteenth Light Dragoons. These regiments doubled the size of Cornwallis's command to nearly ten thousand men.

On November 22, Cornwallis's men pushed across the Hackensack River at New-Bridge and marched south to the town of Hackensack. Washington and his army had left Hackensack the day before. While the American rear guard was fighting at New-Bridge, the rest of the army headed west to the hamlet of Acquackanonk Landing on the Passaic River. The Americans crossed the river on a rickety wooden bridge, then destroyed it, and camped on the other side in another cold November rain. British cavalry followed at a distance and came up to the river; but once again Cornwallis did not attack. He rested his army at Hackensack for two days and sent out foraging parties, who were astounded by the wealth of the New Jersey countryside and the prosperity of its farms.

Cornwallis's object was to keep Washington's small American army moving across New Jersey, not to bring it to battle. On the west side of the Passaic River Washington's army turned southward and marched down the Passaic Valley toward Newark.

In Newark, Washington had a choice to make. One road led northwest to Morristown and the Watchung Mountains, where he would be safe from attack but unable to protect the people of New Jersey. The other road ran southwest to Brunswick, Princeton, and

Trenton, through the densely settled central corridor of the state. Washington instantly made his decision. The sick would go northwest to Morristown. The rest of the army would march south to Brunswick.

The American troops reached Brunswick at noon on November 29. At Brunswick on December 1 British light dragoons came in sight on the opposite bank of the Raritan River. American troops tried to destroy a bridge over the river but were only able to damage it before the British light infantry and Hessian Jagers drove them away. American riflemen occupied houses along the river and began to take a toll of the Jagers. Cornwallis wanted the bridge, and the British brought up their artillery, which began firing in an attempt to push the Americans back from the river.

Captain Alexander Hamilton and his Independent Company of New York State Artillery brought up their guns and an artillery duel began across the Raritan. Hamilton's counterbattery fire kept the British at a distance while the American troops withdrew.

While the British and Hessians rested in Brunswick, Washington continued south to Princeton. On December 2, he sent part of his army to the Delaware River at Trenton and left 1,400 men in Princeton to delay the enemy as best they could, for five days if possible.

On December 7, the British and Hessian troops finally started marching from Brunswick in three columns. The pursuit resumed its stately pace like a slow dance across New Jersey. The two armies moved in a military minuet,

with General's Howe and Cornwallis setting the beat. That same day, Washington's rear guard left Princeton at three o'clock in the afternoon. At precisely four o'clock Cornwallis's infantry arrived.

While the British remained at Brunswick and Princeton, the bulk of the American troops arrived at the water's edge in Trenton around noon on December 2. Washington had sent orders ahead for boats, and many were waiting when they arrived. For the next five days the men labored mightily at getting their guns and supplies and wagons across the river to Pennsylvania. The crossing continued, day and night, by the light of large fires.

There is more bad news for the American cause. In New York harbor, during the week of November 24, a fleet of fifty-one transports with an escort of twelve warships began to gather in the lower bay.

On December 7, the same day when Cornwallis and Howe drove Washington's troops from New Jersey, a British fleet arrived in New England waters. A large British and Hessian force led by General Henry Clinton conquered Rhode Island and the city of Newport, without a battle. Now a third colony fell under imperial control. For the American Whigs, the six months since the British troops arrived on Staten Island had been a cataract of disaster. Many on both sides think that the rebellion is broken and that the American war is over.

*Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, Inc.*

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SUMMER 2009

DON'T MISS THE CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON!



Be sure to attend the Constitution Day Luncheon at Jax Cafe on September 19, 2009. Luncheon will feature a menu from the Revolutionary War era!

Stephen Taylor – our Minnesota Patriot Ancestor

Minnesota Society Vice President, Col. Ronald McRoberts will speak about Stephen Taylor, the only revolutionary soldier known to be buried in Minnesota. Compatriot McRoberts, James Foster and Marvin Stonecipher (Stoney) took a trip to Winona, Minnesota to visit the grave-site and to research the life of Stephen Taylor.

Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



Busy Independence Day Weekend for the MNSSAR Color Guard

2009 MNSSAR Medals and Awards Programs



MNSSAR Color Guard and DAR ladies in Nisswa, MN on July 3rd.



MNSSAR Color Guard and the 7th Pennsylvania raise the Betsy Ross Flag in Wayzata.



Compatriot Rehn Smith presents Bullseye Shooting Range with a flag certificate.

The Honor Guard was busy over the Independence Day weekend making appearances in Nisswa and Wayzata. On July third Compatriots Paul Thiesen, Jim Foster and Craig Whiting along with DAR ladies Faye Leach and Coralee Fox set up a tent in downtown Nisswa and displayed several flags from the Revolution. Many people stopped to ask questions and get photos taken with the men and ladies in period attire. They passed out brochures explaining SAR and DAR as well as information on the Eagle Scout program. Although the Guard did not participate in the parade (always on the 3rd), they did make many contacts and raised awareness of the two organizations. Compatriot Whiting has been asked to be a guest speaker at the September Brainerd DAR meeting and there will be discussion on how the two organizations can work together in the Brainerd area.

On the Fourth of July Guard members Thiesen, Brady and Whiting attended the C.A.R. annual pancake

breakfast at the depot in Wayzata, by invitation. Also attending were members of the 7th Pennsylvania, a reenactment group from the cities. Teaming together the 7th and the Guard raised the Betsy Ross flag and conducted several live fire volleys with muskets accompanied by drums. Again brochures were handed out, photos taken and a great deal of discussion about the SAR was undertaken. Several contacts were made that may result in new members as well as for the Eagle Scout program. A good relationship was established with the 7th Pennsylvania, the C.A.R. and with more DAR groups. The C.A.R. has invited the Guard back next year.

These activities have resulted in increased public awareness of the SAR and may very well result in increased membership and more public activities. Besides that, it was fun.

Compatriots are urged to consider joining the Guard and participate in these events when available. That's what Jim Foster recently did. Interested in finding out

more? Contact Paul Thiesen, Paul Brady, Jim Foster or Craig Whiting.

ROTC Awards by the Minnesota Society

The Minnesota Society presented ROTC Medals in seven colleges units and 14 high school units. Presenters were James Foster, Ronald McRoberts, Marvin Stonecipher, Truck Morrison, Timothy Harris and John Hallberg Jones.

ROTC medals are presented to cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter presented 28 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals. 26 were in high schools and two were at Naval Sea Cadets units. One of the Naval Sea Cadets units was a new addition to our presentation list this year. At the two units we were given the opportunity to bring a message about the purpose of the SAR and our commitment to the youth of the

country. Medals were also awarded to twelve 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*.

Flag Certificates

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

- First Lutheran Church of White Bear Lake
- Namitou Manufacturing Co, White Bear Lake
- North American Banking Co., Roseville
- Roseville Memorial Chapel
- Brown-Wilbert Inc, Roseville

The Minnesota Society also presented a flag certificate to Bullseye Shooting Range in North Branch, Minnesota. The presentation was made by Rehn Smith.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, December 23, 1776

THE CRISIS

by Thomas Paine

THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated. Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared that she has a right (not only to TAX) but "to BIND us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER" and if being bound in that manner, is not slavery, then is there not such a thing as slavery upon earth. Even the expression is impious; for so unlimited a power can belong only to God.

Whether the independence of the continent was declared too soon, or delayed too long, I will not now enter into as an argument; my own simple opinion is, that had it been eight months earlier, it would have been much better. We did not make a proper use of last winter, neither could we, while we were in a dependent state. However, the fault, if it were one, was all our own [NOTE]; we have none to blame but ourselves. But no great deal is lost yet. All that Howe has been doing for this month past, is rather a ravage than a conquest, which the spirit of the Jerseys, a year ago, would have quickly repulsed, and which time and a little resolution will soon recover.

I have as little superstition in me as any man living, but my secret opinion has ever been, and still is, that God Almighty will not give up a people to military destruction, or leave them unsupportedly to perish, who have so earnestly and so repeatedly sought to avoid the calamities of war, by every decent method which wisdom could invent. Neither have I so much of the infidel in me, as to suppose that He has relinquished the government of the

world, and given us up to the care of devils; and as I do not, I cannot see on what grounds the king of Britain can look up to heaven for help against us: a common murderer, a highwayman, or a house-breaker, has as good a pretence as he.

'Tis surprising to see how rapidly a panic will sometimes run through a country. All nations and ages have been subject to them. Britain has trembled like an ague at the report of a French fleet of flat-bottomed boats; and in the fourteenth [fifteenth] century the whole English army, after ravaging the kingdom of France, was driven back like men petrified with fear; and this brave exploit was performed by a few broken forces collected and headed by a woman, Joan of Arc. Would that heaven might inspire some Jersey maid to spirit up her countrymen, and save her fair fellow sufferers from ravage and ravishment! Yet panics, in some cases, have their uses; they produce as much good as hurt. Their duration is always short; the mind soon grows through them, and acquires a firmer habit than before. But their peculiar advantage is, that they are the touchstones of sincerity and hypocrisy, and bring things and men to light, which might otherwise have lain forever undiscovered. In fact, they have the same effect on secret traitors, which an imaginary apparition would have upon a private murderer. They sift out the hidden thoughts of man, and hold them up in public to the world. Many a disguised Tory has lately shown his head, that shall penitentially solemnize with curses the day on which Howe arrived upon the Delaware.

As I was with the troops at Fort Lee, and marched with them to the edge of Pennsylvania, I am well acquainted with many circumstances, which those who live at a distance know but little or nothing of. Our situation there was exceedingly cramped, the place being a narrow neck of land between the North River and the Hackensack. Our force was inconsiderable, being not one-fourth so great as Howe could bring against us. We had no army at hand to have relieved the

garrison, had we shut ourselves up and stood on our defence. Our ammunition, light artillery, and the best part of our stores, had been removed, on the apprehension that Howe would endeavor to penetrate the Jerseys, in which case Fort Lee could be of no use to us; for it must occur to every thinking man, whether in the army or not, that these kind of field forts are only for temporary purposes, and last in use no longer than the enemy directs his force against the particular object which such forts are raised to defend. Such was our situation and condition at Fort Lee on the morning of the 20th of November, when an officer arrived with information that the enemy with 200 boats had landed about seven miles above; Major General [Nathaniel] Green, who commanded the garrison, immediately ordered them under arms, and sent express to General Washington at the town of Hackensack, distant by the way of the ferry = six miles. Our first object was to secure the bridge over the Hackensack, which laid up the river between the enemy and us, about six miles from us, and three from them. General Washington arrived in about three-quarters of an hour, and marched at the head of the troops towards the bridge, which place I expected we should have a brush for; however, they did not choose to dispute it with us, and the greatest part of our troops went over the bridge, the rest over the ferry, except some which passed at a mill on a small creek, between the bridge and the ferry, and made their way through some marshy grounds up to the town of Hackensack, and there passed the river. We brought off as much baggage as the wagons could contain, the rest was lost. The simple object was to bring off the garrison, and march them on till they could be strengthened by the Jersey or Pennsylvania militia, so as to be enabled to make a stand. We staid four days at Newark, collected our out-posts with some of the Jersey militia, and marched out twice to meet the enemy, on being informed that they were advancing, though our numbers were greatly inferior to theirs. Howe, in my little opinion, committed

a great error in generalship in not throwing a body of forces off from Staten Island through Amboy, by which means he might have seized all our stores at Brunswick, and intercepted our march into Pennsylvania; but if we believe the power of hell to be limited, we must likewise believe that their agents are under some providential control.

I shall not now attempt to give all the particulars of our retreat to the Delaware; suffice it for the present to say, that both officers and men, though greatly harassed and fatigued, frequently without rest, covering, or provision, the inevitable consequences of a long retreat, bore it with a manly and martial spirit. All their wishes centred in one, which was, that the country would turn out and help them to drive the enemy back. Voltaire has remarked that King William never appeared to full advantage but in difficulties and in action; the same remark may be made on General Washington, for the character fits him. There is a natural firmness in some minds which cannot be unlocked by trifles, but which, when unlocked, discovers a cabinet of fortitude; and I reckon it among those kind of public blessings, which we do not immediately see, that God hath blessed him with uninterrupted health, and given him a mind that can even flourish upon care.

I shall conclude this paper with some miscellaneous remarks on the state of our affairs; and shall begin with asking the following question, Why is it that the enemy have left the New England provinces, and made these middle ones the seat of war? The answer is easy: New England is not infested with Tories, and we are. I have been tender in raising the cry against these men, and used numberless arguments to show them their danger, but it will not do to sacrifice a world either to their folly or their baseness. The period is now arrived, in which either they or we must change our sentiments, or one or both must fall. And what is a Tory? Good God! What is he? I should not be afraid to go with a hundred Whigs against a

continued...

thousand Tories, were they to attempt to get into arms. Every Tory is a coward; for servile, slavish, self-interested fear is the foundation of Toryism; and a man under such influence, though he may be cruel, never can be brave.

But, before the line of irrecoverable separation be drawn between us, let us reason the matter together: Your conduct is an invitation to the enemy, yet not one in a thousand of you has heart enough to join him. Howe is as much deceived by you as the American cause is injured by you. He expects you will all take up arms, and flock to his standard, with muskets on your shoulders. Your opinions are of no use to him, unless you support him personally, for 'tis soldiers, and not Tories, that he wants.

I once felt all that kind of anger, which a man ought to feel, against the mean principles that are held by the Tories: a noted one, who kept a tavern at Amboy, was standing at his door, with as pretty a child in his hand, about eight or nine years old, as I ever saw, and after speaking his mind as freely as he thought was prudent, finished with this unfatherly expression, "Well! give me peace in my day." Not a man lives on the continent but fully believes that a separation must some time or other finally take place, and a generous parent should have said, "If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace;" and this single reflection, well applied, is sufficient to awaken every man to duty. Not a place upon earth might be so happy as America. Her situation is remote from all the wrangling world, and she has nothing to do but to trade with them. A man can distinguish himself between temper and principle, and I am as confident, as I am that God governs the world, that America will never be happy till she gets clear of foreign dominion. Wars, without ceasing, will break out till that period arrives, and the continent must in the end be conqueror; for though the flame of liberty may sometimes cease to shine, the coal can never expire.

America did not, nor does not want force; but she wanted a proper application of that force. Wisdom is not the purchase of a day, and it is no wonder that we should err at the first setting off. From an excess of tenderness, we were unwilling to raise an army, and trusted our cause to the temporary defence of a well-meaning militia. A summer's experience has now taught us better; yet with those troops, while they were collected, we were able to set bounds to the progress of the enemy, and, thank God! they are again assembling. I always considered militia as the best troops in the world for a

sudden exertion, but they will not do for a long campaign. Howe, it is probable, will make an attempt on this city [Philadelphia]; should he fail on this side the Delaware, he is ruined. If he succeeds, our cause is not ruined. He stakes all on his side against a part on ours; admitting he succeeds, the consequence will be, that armies from both ends of the continent will march to assist their suffering friends in the middle states; for he cannot go everywhere, it is impossible. I consider Howe as the greatest enemy the Tories have; he is bringing a war into their country, which, had it not been for him and partly for themselves, they had been clear of. Should he now be expelled, I wish with all the devotion of a Christian, that the names of Whig and Tory may never more be mentioned; but should the Tories give him encouragement to come, or assistance if he come, I as sincerely wish that our next year's arms may expel them from the continent, and the Congress appropriate their possessions to the relief of those who have suffered in well-doing. A single successful battle next year will settle the whole. America could carry on a two years' war by the confiscation of the property of disaffected persons, and be made happy by their expulsion. Say not that this is revenge, call it rather the soft resentment of a suffering people, who, having no object in view but the good of all, have staked their own all upon a seemingly doubtful event. Yet it is folly to argue against determined hardness; eloquence may strike the ear, and the language of sorrow draw forth the tear of compassion, but nothing can reach the heart that is steeped in prejudice.

Quitting this class of men, I turn with the warm ardor of a friend to those who have nobly stood, and are yet determined to stand the matter out: I call not upon a few, but upon all: not on this state or that state, but on every state: up and help us; lay your shoulders to the wheel; better have too much force than too little, when so great an object is at stake. Let it be told to the future world, that in the depth of winter, when nothing but hope and virtue could survive, that the city and the country, alarmed at one common danger, came forth to meet and to repulse it. Say not that thousands are gone, turn out your tens of thousands; throw not the burden of the day upon Providence, but "show your faith by your works," that God may bless you. It matters not where you live, or what rank of life you hold, the evil or the blessing will reach you all. The far and the near, the home counties and the back, the rich and the poor, will suffer or rejoice alike. The

heart that feels not now is dead; the blood of his children will curse his cowardice, who shrinks back at a time when a little might have saved the whole, and made them happy. I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death. My own line of reasoning is to myself as straight and clear as a ray of light. Not all the treasures of the world, so far as I believe, could have induced me to support an offensive war, for I think it murder; but if a thief breaks into my house, burns and destroys my property, and kills or threatens to kill me, or those that are in it, and to "bind me in all cases whatsoever" to his absolute will, am I to suffer it? What signifies it to me, whether he who does it is a king or a common man; my countryman or not my countryman; whether it be done by an individual villain, or an army of them? If we reason to the root of things we shall find no difference; neither can any just cause be assigned why we should punish in the one case and pardon in the other. Let them call me rebel and welcome, I feel no concern from it; but I should suffer the misery of devils, were I to make a whore of my soul by swearing allegiance to one whose character is that of a sottish, stupid, stubborn, worthless, brutish man. I conceive likewise a horrid idea in receiving mercy from a being, who at the last day shall be shrieking to the rocks and mountains to cover him, and fleeing with terror from the orphan, the widow, and the slain of America.

There are cases which cannot be overdone by language, and this is one. There are persons, too, who see not the full extent of the evil which threatens them; they solace themselves with hopes that the enemy, if he succeed, will be merciful. It is the madness of folly, to expect mercy from those who have refused to do justice; and even mercy, where conquest is the object, is only a trick of war; the cunning of the fox is as murderous as the violence of the wolf, and we ought to guard equally against both. Howe's first object is, partly by threats and partly by promises, to terrify or seduce the people to deliver up their arms and receive mercy. The ministry recommended the same plan to Gage, and this is what the tories call making their peace, "a peace which passeth all understanding" indeed! A peace which would be the immediate forerunner of a worse ruin than any we have yet thought of. Ye men of Pennsylvania, do reason upon

these things! Were the back counties to give up their arms, they would fall an easy prey to the Indians, who are all armed: this perhaps is what some Tories would not be sorry for. Were the home counties to deliver up their arms, they would be exposed to the resentment of the back counties who would then have it in their power to chastise their defection at pleasure. And were any one state to give up its arms, that state must be garrisoned by all Howe's army of Britons and Hessians to preserve it from the anger of the rest. Mutual fear is the principal link in the chain of mutual love, and woe be to that state that breaks the compact. Howe is mercifully inviting you to barbarous destruction, and men must be either rogues or fools that will not see it. I dwell not upon the vapors of imagination; I bring reason to your ears, and, in language as plain as A, B, C, hold up truth to your eyes.

I thank God, that I fear not. I see no real cause for fear. I know our situation well, and can see the way out of it. While our army was collected, Howe dared not risk a battle; and it is no credit to him that he decamped from the White Plains, and waited a mean opportunity to ravage the defenceless Jerseys; but it is great credit to us, that, with a handful of men, we sustained an orderly retreat for near an hundred miles, brought off our ammunition, all our field pieces, the greatest part of our stores, and had four rivers to pass. None can say that our retreat was precipitate, for we were near three weeks in performing it, that the country might have time to come in. Twice we marched back to meet the enemy, and remained out till dark. The sign of fear was not seen in our camp, and had not some of the cowardly and disaffected inhabitants spread false alarms through the country, the Jerseys had never been ravaged. Once more we are again collected and collecting; our new army at both ends of the continent is recruiting fast, and we shall be able to open the next campaign with sixty thousand men, well armed and clothed. This is our situation, and who will may know it. By perseverance and fortitude we have the prospect of a glorious issue; by cowardice and submission, the sad choice of a variety of evils — a ravaged country — a depopulated city — habitations without safety, and slavery without hope — our homes turned into barracks and bawdy-houses for Hessians, and a future race to provide for, whose fathers we shall doubt of. Look on this picture and weep over it! and if there yet remains one thoughtless wretch who believes it not, let him suffer it unlamented.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • AUTUMN 2009



Constitution Day Luncheon Report

Twenty-seven members of the Minnesota Society SAR, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered on September 19, 2009 at Jax Cafe for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The chefs, using a colonial-era theme, had created a special meal. The total attendance was fifty. COL Ronald McRoberts, Vice President of the MNSSAR presented the program of the day. He detailed the life and service of Stephen Taylor, the only known Revolutionary Soldier buried in Minnesota.

Earlier this year compatriots Jim Foster, Marvin Stonecipher and Ronald McRoberts visited Stephen Taylor's monument.

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Thomas Truxtun Morrison
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American Eagle:
Major General Charles Lee
Captured
.....
Don't Forget to Pay Your
2009 Dues

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



A VERY SPECIAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Minnesota Society SAR Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones called the assemblage to order at twelve o'clock noon and welcomed those in attendance. James Foster, MNSSAR and SR President, as a member of the SAR Color Guard, participated in the flag presentations. Vice-President COL Ronald McRoberts led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and the Pledge to the SAR, and the MNSSAR Chaplain Rev. Richard Vork gave the invocation.

The chefs at Jax Cafe created a special menu using a colonial-era theme. Everyone was served a delicious asparagus and artichoke salad. Guests were given a choice of three menu dishes: New England boiled pot roast consisting of a generous portion of vegetables, potatoes and beef; Virginia Ham served with new potatoes and applesauce; and roast game hen – a whole bird stuffed with green beans. Pound cake served with fresh berries and whipped cream was a special treat for dessert.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones introduced Executive Chef Bob Foster and Sous Chef Jeff King who had prepared this special menu.

They were greeted with a large round of applause.

Compatriot Jones introduced several special guests, some of whom brought greetings: COL William Lees, Vice President General, North Central District NSSAR; Faye Vork, Vice President General NSDAR; Frances Stachour, Regent, Minnesota DAR; and Adrienne Morrison, Founder of the Lake Minnetonka Society CAR.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented new members with certificates and rosettes. Present were David Andrew Johnson and John David McCalum.

It was reported that Compatriots John H. Jones and Arthur Louis Finnell had been awarded the Liberty Medal at the recent NSSAR Congress. The MNSSAR will award an oak leaf cluster to Timothy Harris for his Patriot Medal, in recognition of his outstanding continued service to the society. He was unable to attend the Constitution Luncheon as he was on his honeymoon. It will be presented at the next meeting.

COL Ronald McRoberts, Vice President of the MNSSAR, presented the program of the day.

After a brief "infomercial" on the U.S. Forest Service describing their work, he detailed the life and service of Stephen Taylor, the only known Revolutionary Soldier buried in Minnesota.

Stephen Taylor served in the Berkshire Massachusetts Militia for 26 days in Capt. John Strong's Company, Col. John Brown's Regiment in September 1777. He served in the same militia for six months service in Brigadier General Paterson's Brigade in 1780. He was at Camp Totoway, NJ during the time of Benedict Arnold's treason at West Point. From 1781-1783 Stephen Taylor served as a private in the companies of Captain John Williams and Thomas Cushing in Col. Joseph Vose's First Massachusetts Regiment. He was attached to the French-American forces under the Marquis de Lafayette. He was present at the British surrender at Yorktown, VA.

After the Revolutionary War Stephen Taylor moved to Ontario and then Allegany Counties New York. He moved to Winona County Minnesota in 1856. Mr. Taylor died in 1857. In 1865 his remains were moved to Woodlawn Cemetery in Winona. His

remains were again moved to its present location and a monument was installed in the same cemetery in 1933. The monument was not intended to depict Fort Ticonderoga. The monument, which was used by the New York company elsewhere, was intended to depict a colonial stockade with corner lookout towers.

The monument asserts that Mr. Taylor served at Ticonderoga with Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys. The general current understanding is that he was not at Fort Ticonderoga at that time. COL McRoberts presented a history of Fort Ticonderoga and its role during the Revolutionary War.

Compatriot McRoberts presented a very detailed report on Stephen Taylor citing a great deal of research utilizing pension, census and military records. He reported on Stephen Taylor's lineage as well as his descendants.

All agreed that it was an outstanding program. President Foster presented COL McRoberts the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



NOW & THEN

Thomas Truxtun Morrison (Truck), a native of Pleasantville, New York is currently on the Board of Managers of the MNSSAR. He joined the Minnesota Society because of his interest in family history. Truck is also a member of the Colonial Order of New England, Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry, Descendants of Colonial Clergy, Colonial and Antebellum Bench & Bar, S.R., Society of the War of 1812, Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters, Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, Baronial Order of Magna Charta and the Order of the Merovingian Dynasty.

Truck attended Dartmouth College, served in the U.S. Marine Corps and is a retired C.O.O. of ConAgra, Inc.

He met his wife Adrienne while skiing in Aspen, Colorado. They have a daughter, Mary Margaret (Mimi) and son, Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Jr., and five grandchildren.

Truck has three ancestors who served in the

American Revolution – Alexander Henderson, Philip Heffelfinger and most notably, his namesake, Thomas Truxtun.

Commodore Thomas Truxtun (1755-1822) embarked upon his seafaring career at age 12. By the age of 16, he was pressed into service in the Royal Navy. In his early twenties, during the American Revolution, he commanded privateer ships. He had risen to command of Andrew Caldwell, bringing large quantities of gunpowder into Philadelphia in 1775.

He signed on as a lieutenant onboard the *Congress*, the first privateer to be fitted out for service against Great Britain, and in 1776-77 participated in the capture of many prizes. Successively, he commanded *Independence*, *Commerce* and *St. James*.

At a dinner in Truxtun's honor, George Washington declared his services had been worth those of a regiment. He was thirty years old when he brought Benjamin Franklin home from his long wartime service in

France.

For the next eight years he was a China hand, pioneering in the newly established trade to that distant corner of the world.

When the United States Navy was organized, he was selected as one of its first six captains on June 4, 1798. He was assigned command of the *Constellation*, one of the new frigates, and he put to sea immediately to prosecute the undeclared naval war with revolutionary France.

On February 9, 1799, Truxtun scored the first of his two most famous victories. After an hour's fight, *Constellation* battered the French warship *L'Insurgente* into submission in one of the most illustrious battles of the Quasi-War with France.

He has often been called the Father of the Navy, because of the heritage he bestowed upon it.

"Good discipline is considered by all who know anything of service as the vital part of a ship at war."

– Captain Thomas Truxtun

Source: Truxtun of the Constellation, by Eugene S. Ferguson, The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD.

www.truxtun.navy.mil/default.aspx

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota Society's 121st Annual General Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 9, 2010. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, December 14, 1776



MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE CAPTURED!

British capture America's second ranking general.

Brunswick, New Jersey. — Yesterday, just after ten a.m. a swarm of British cavalry appeared suddenly at Mrs. White's Tavern at Basking Ridge, New Jersey. They were a scouting party of twenty-five horsemen commanded by Colonel William Harcourt, who had once served under Lee in Portugal. They had been sent out from Trenton by General Lord Cornwallis to gather intelligence on Lee's "motions and situation."

On Thursday with a bodyguard of four officers and fifteen men, General Lee rode to Basking Ridge, where an Irish widow named White kept a tavern. Mrs. White also had other women boarding at her establishment; during a long night, one of Lee's officers was awakened by female screaming.

The next morning, Friday the thirteenth, General Lee was late coming down for breakfast. In an old blue coat and greasy leather breeches, he sat at the table writing a letter to General Horatio Gates, who he knew shared his unfavorable opinion of George Washington.

"Entre nous, a certain great man is damnable difficult," Lee wrote, "He has thrown me into a situation where I may have my choice of difficulties. In short, unless something which I do not expect turns up, we are lost."

He was finishing his letter with "Adieu, my dear friend! God bless you!" when an aide rose from the breakfast table

and told Lee he'd better look out the window.

During the night Lee spent at Mrs. White's tavern, Lieutenant Banastre Tarleton of the British Sixteenth Regiment of Light Dragoons, and thirty of the dragoons had been reconnoitering nearby for intelligence about Lee. The next morning they captured an American soldier, and two miles farther on, some townspeople volunteered that General Lee was in the vicinity. Tarleton then picked up two of Lee's advance sentries. To save themselves, they told about Mrs. White's tavern and the general's guard, which wasn't large. Next the dragoons captured an American messenger carrying letters from Lee to John Sullivan, who had recently been exchanged for a British officer and had joined Lee's troops. The messenger had pointed out the tavern itself.

Reining up in front, Tarleton could see two American sentries standing at the Tavern door. Shouting and waving their sabers, Tarleton and six dragoons rode at full speed up to the Americans, who panicked, dropped their weapons and ran off. Tarleton ordered his men to fire through every window and cut up the American troops inside. At that, an old woman appeared in the doorway and dropped to her knees. Begging for her life, she told Tarleton that General Lee was still there.

It was then that the aide had looked out the window and seen the rest of Tarleton's dra-

goons in their green uniforms charging down at the house from a nearby orchard.

"Here sir," he told General Lee, "are the British cavalry!"

Lee asked, "Where?" He quickly signed his name at the bottom of his letter to Gates.

"Around the house."

Tarleton and the dragoons circled the inn and opened fire, hitting several of the guards. Lee watched in shock as a British soldier raised his saber and hacked through the arm of a sentry.

Tarleton shouted from outside that he knew General Lee was in the house. If he surrendered, he and his attendants would be safe. But if he didn't obey immediately, the tavern would be burned and every person in it, without exception, put to the sword.

Inside, Charles Lee couldn't believe that he had been captured. "For God's sake," he cried. "What shall I do?"

Mrs. White hustled him upstairs and tried to hide him in a nook between the chimney and the fireplace. But the space was small and Lee couldn't squeeze into it.

They heard Tarleton give orders to set the house on fire. Still Lee hesitated, pacing the chamber as he tried to think of an escape. At last he saw he had no chance and sent down word that he would surrender.

Lee's aid-de-camp, William Bradford, went to the front door. When he opened it, there was a fresh volley of shots. Bradford leaped back and shouted that his general was coming out. Charles Lee stepped forward and surrendered his sword. He said he trusted he would be treated like a gentleman. One of the dragoons agreed and ordered

Lee to mount his horse. The British were far from their lines and eager to get their prize to headquarters. Lee asked for his hat and coat, and Captain Bradford went for them. Once inside, he snatched a servant's shirt, and substituted it for his uniform jacket. The excited British soldiers had eyes only for General Lee and didn't notice the servant who handed over the general's coat. As Lee was being led away, Captain Bradford slipped back inside. James Wilkinson, an aide to Horatio Gates, who had been waiting to return with Lee's answer, escaped to a room that the British did not search, taking with him two pistols and the letter.

Tarleton's men rode rapidly for thirteen miles until they forded a river and considered themselves safe from American pursuit. Tarleton thought the entire affair seemed like a miracle. He and his men had taken prisoner America's most distinguished general and Britain's foremost traitor. Riding almost without stop, they covered the remaining sixty miles and turned Lee over to Lord Cornwallis. That night there was wild celebrating in the British camp. Military bands played until dawn, and officers toasted King George until they couldn't raise their glasses. They fed so much alcohol to General Lee's horse that it is got as drunk as they did.

*Source: 1776,
by David McCullough,
Simon and Schuster, 2005.*

*Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, Inc.*

*Patriots, by A.J. Langguth,
Simon and Schuster, 1988*