

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2020

Newsletters 2010-2019

Minnesota Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution

Finding a Newsletter

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Historian/Newsletter Editor: Timothy Charles Harris, PP



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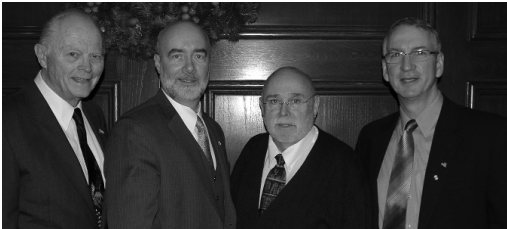
M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • WINTER 2010

MNSSAR 121ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Allen Dean Shepersky, Stephen Paul Thompson, Arthur Louis Finnell, John Charles Sassaman received membership certificates or supplemental certificates during the 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 9, 2010. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The society was called to order by President James Fredrick Foster. The colors were presented by Hon. Paul K. Theisen, Commander of the MNSSAR Color Guard. Compatriot Bill Thomas led the Pledge to the U.S. flag and read the Pledge to the SAR, and Compatriot COL Ronald McRoberts gave the Invocation.

The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

MNSSAR 121st Annual General Meeting Held at Jax Cafe

Minnesota Society SAR Officers for 2010

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society
2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743



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MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saint Paul Chapter

With the absence of both the President and the Vice President, the meeting of the Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer, Timothy Harris. Noting that the Saint Paul Chapter has a much smaller treasury than the Minneapolis Chapter, two Saint Paul Chapter members made generous donations equaling \$350. During the Minnesota business meeting Compatriot Jones led an auction of a SAR blazer patch and six bicentennial medallions from the estate of Charles Albert Stuck, with the proceeds of \$135 going to the Saint Paul Chapter.

Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that ten of the usually twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2009 and their students were presented with medals the past May.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2009, five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for showing their patriotism and love of country by regularly flying the flag.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Robert Kahl. Minneapolis Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 26 area high schools in 2009, and that the Minneapolis Chapter also had presentations at two squadrons of

Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2010 program. In addition a letter was sent to Insight School of Minnesota inviting their participation.

The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership. During 2009 we had eight new members, three reinstatements, three deaths, one transferred to another society, and two resigned, giving a net increase of five, for a membership of 133, plus four dual members as of 31 December 2009. However, there are still eight that owe 2010 dues, who, if not paid by 25 January 2010, will be dropped for non-payment of dues.

Stephen Paul Thompson and Allen Dean Shepersky were welcomed as new members and presented their certificates and rosettes. New member Zachary Allan Remple was unable to be present. His certificate will be mailed. Supplemental Applications have been approved for Arthur Louis Finnell, Marvin Eugene Stonecipher, and John Charles Sassaman, all of whom were presented with certificates. Minnesota State Registrar Finnell was presented the Liberty Medal Certificate and Oak Leaf Cluster. The award had been given at the National Congress in Atlanta in July 2009 and forwarded to us for presentation.

Minnesota Society Endowment Trust Fund

The Trustees proposed that the 2009 interest of \$470.06 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$50.00 (which will be a 3-year subscription to the SAR Magazine and \$35.00 for books), Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00, Minnesota Genealogical Journal \$26.63, and the balance of \$298.43 to the MNSAR Color Guard.

Minnesota Society 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 several 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 931 new Eagle Scouts in 2009 and has received several 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 has made several appearances and have additional plans, such as visitations/wakes for deceased members, etc. He

asked for more volunteers to serve in this outstanding unit.

Other Business

Compatriot Arthur Finnell reported that he is a frequent visitor at the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis and that the waiting rooms have very little reading material. He offered to be the contact point for past issues of The SAR Magazine and other publications from lineage and historical societies, which he will deliver to the hospital. You may mail your patriotic publications to:

Arthur Louis Finnell
7501 W. 101st Street #104
Bloomington, MN 55438

COL McRoberts presented a project to publish a booklet/pamphlet on the life of Stephen Taylor, the only known revolutionary soldier buried in Minnesota. Details will be formulated and a written proposal will be presented to the Society at the Washington Day luncheon. A motion passed to endorse the project, pending details.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Compatriot Jones.

Following the retirement of the colors by Commander Theisen, Compatriot Thomas read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, President Foster declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.



2010 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and re-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 PresidentCOL Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Registrar.....Arthur Louis Finnell, PP
 Genealogist & Asst. Registrar.....William Leslie DeCoursey, PP
 ChancellorHon. David Sinclair Bouschor, PP
 Historian/Newsletter EditorTimothy Charles Harris, PP
 Librarian.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 SurgeonDr. Roy Franklin House, Jr.
 ChaplainThe Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork
 Sergeant-at-ArmsPaul Victor William E. Miller

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

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 2011Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2012Michael Scott Swisher, PP
 Trustee ending January 2013John Hallberg Jones, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Cleveland, Ohio in July 2010:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Vice PresidentRehn Douglas Smith
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 ChaplainThe 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:

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D.
 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 PresidentRobert Leslie Smith, III
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainMichael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
 James Fredrick Foster
 COL Ronald Edward McRoberts

The Revolutionary Soldier 1775-1783

is the name of the book that compatriot Paul Kent Theisen presented to fellow members of the MNSSAR Color Guard. If you are interested in obtaining a copy it can be found at www.amazon.com.

Next Meeting

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Jax Cafe on Saturday, February 13, 2010. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, December 27, 1776



STUNNING VICTORY AT TRENTON!

Bristol, Pennsylvania – A few days before Christmas General Washington learned, through a spy, that British Commander Sir William Howe, accompanied by General Cornwallis, returned to New York. Howe had distributed his forces along a chain of posts on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River, from Burlington to Trenton, while garrisoning points in nine other towns.

Having learned of Howe's chain of posts, Washington resolved to strike one of them, finally settling on Trenton. He *had* to do something, *had* to rally the dying rebel cause, *had* to shake and even stagger the enemy before the Delaware froze and became passable, before the disease of defection spread from New Jersey into Pennsylvania and elsewhere, before his army melted away on the first day of 1777.

On December 23 Washington had his army formed into ranks to have the first issue of Tom Paine's *The American Crisis* read to them. Words do not usually inspire soldiers, especially beaten men, such as these threadbare, hungry, shivering ragamuffins. But these words did. A thrill of patriotism and purpose ran through Washington's ragged ranks.

As the daylight of Christmas, 1776 began fading into a storm-tossed night, the American troops began to move toward McKonkey's Ferry. Here were gathered the boats Washington had collected, and at their oars were John Glover's Marbleheaders. Snow mixed with sleet blew into the faces of the men.

The Americans had been enjoined to silence. No soldier

was to break ranks under pain of death. They stood huddled by the ferry landing, ducking their heads into their collars against the rising howl of the storm.

The men entered the boats. Thin, jagged cakes of ice came floating downriver to strike the boats so hard that Glover's Marbleheaders had difficulty keeping afloat. Washington had hoped to have his troops on the New Jersey shore by midnight, but it was not until after three o'clock that General Henry Knox's booming voice announced that the crossing was completed.

Washington formed his forces into two divisions. General Sullivan would take his division – which included John Stark's sharpshooters – down the river road. General Greene's division, accompanied by Washington, would march on Trenton along a road two miles farther inland. Sullivan would hit the bottom of the town, Greene the top. The Americans began marching. The roads were slippery. Cruel ice cut through flimsy footwear and drew blood. In the morning Major Wilkinson could follow the route by the bloodstains in the snow.

But down the roads they marched, steadily gaining on the still-sleeping enemy. With daylight, just before eight o'clock in the morning, both columns reached their destination – and both flushed Hessian pickets and drove them in.

"Der Feind! Heraus! Heraus!" the picket shouted. "The enemy! Turn out! Turn out!"

Lieutenant Jacob Piel heard the shouts and rushed to alert Colonel Johann Rall, commander of the Hessian outpost. Piel hammered on Rall's door.

Rall, in his nightclothes, poked his head out the window. Piel told him he had heard firing. Rall withdrew his head and a few minutes later came rushing downstairs in full uniform. He formed his own blue-coated regiment on King Street. The scarlet-coated Lossbergs marched to the right to take over Queen Street parallel with King, while the black-coated Knyphausen Regiment made up the reserve. But at the top of both King and Queen streets stood the American artillery.

Captain Alexander Hamilton's gunners struck their matches in the touchholes. Two cannon to each street roared and bucked. American cheers mingled with the shrieks of Hessian soldiers stricken by grapeshot. Rall's regiment was fragmented and driven back. The other brace of cannon cleared Queen Street, but the Lossbergs mounted their own cannon and fired back. The Americans charged. Captain William Washington – a distant relative of the chief's – and Lieutenant James Monroe led their men right into the cannon's mouth. They captured them, although both were wounded, and turned them on the Hessians.

Sullivan's men, at the bottom of the town, were attacking from the west. Greene's division extended its right flank to join Sullivan, while more of Greene's units worked around to the rear or the east of the town.

Perhaps four hundred Hessians escaped over the Assunpink Creek bridge. The remainder, however, could not get away. Even with wet firelocks the Americans fought with conquering fury. "Use the bayonet," Washington ordered.

"I am determined to take Trenton." Some Americans ran inside the houses to dry their pieces or pick the touchholes clear. They acted as snipers when Rall re-formed his shattered troops and tried to counterattack, and they sent two bullets into Rall's body. The Hessian commander fell from his horse, fatally stricken, and that was about the end of the battle.

As men cut away Rall's clothes to treat his wounds, they found a note in his pocket. On Christmas night, while Colonel Rall was celebrating the Nativity in the hearty German manner, a loyalist wrote a note informing him that the American army was on the march. A servant delivered it. Rall stuck it into his pocket, unread.

Sullivan's troops now held the bridge, and the escape gap was plugged. One by one the Hessian regiments surrendered. In all, about 920 Hessians had been captured, about 24 were killed and 90 wounded. Two Americans had been frozen to death on the march, but not one was killed in the battle; two officers and two privates were wounded.

General George Washington stood radiant on the field. When Major Wilkinson rode up to him to announce that the last enemy regiment had grounded arms, Washington's face actually shown, and he extended his hand in thanks.

"Major Wilkinson," he said, "this is a glorious day for our country."

Source: George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.

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

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THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.sar.org/mnssar • SPRING 2010



Commissioner McElroy Speaks at the MNSSAR George Washington Observance and Luncheon

Dan McElroy is commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), which supports the economic success of Minnesota's individuals, businesses and communities.

McElroy joined Governor Pawlenty's leadership team in 2003 as commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Finance, where he was architect of the budget which addressed a \$4.56 billion budget deficit without raising taxes. He later served as the Governor's chief of staff before becoming the Governor's senior advisor on innovation in 2005.

Prior to his appointments, McElroy served in the Minnesota House of Representatives from 1995 to 2003. During that time, he was an assistant majority leader, chair of the Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Finance, and chair of the Legislative Audit Commission.

**INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...**

**Commissioner McElroy Speaks at
George Washington Observance
and Luncheon**

**Hutchinson Eagle Scout
Honored**

**The Battle of Kings Mountain
By Robert Brett Rasmussen – 2009
Eagle Scout Contest Winner**

American Eagle

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Minnesota Society
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2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743



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SAR Salute



COMMISSIONER McELROY SPEAKS AT THE ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON OBSERVANCE AND LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, MN – On February 13, 2010 twenty-three members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 36.

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.

Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones reported on our newest member, Wallace William Frelander, who was unable to be present. His certificate and rosette will be mailed to him. Timothy C. Harris was presented with the oak leaf cluster for his Patriot Medal in appreciation of his continuing service. Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on a new member whose genealogy has just been approved, but we do not as yet have the certificate, Robert Fergus Dunlop. Compatriot Dunlop and his wife live in London and came to Minnesota last fall, during which time Compatriot Jones assisted in his appli-

cation.

The vice president of the MNSSAR, COL Ronald McRoberts, reported that he has submitted his written proposal of the Stephen Taylor project to the Board of Managers. This will be a manuscript detailing the life of Stephen Taylor, the only Revolutionary War soldier known to be buried in Minnesota.

Secretary Jones introduced the speaker of the day, Dan McElroy, Commissioner of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for the State of Minnesota. His fascinating talk focused on the economic opportunities and challenges facing Minnesota in the 21st century.

He started his address by stating that Minnesota's policies have made Minnesota an economic success in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Minnesota has more *Fortune 500* companies per capita (19) than any other. Many of the nation's largest privately held companies were born and are thriving in Minnesota.

From food products to medical breakthroughs to technological wonders to gizmos and toys, Minnesota companies have given

the world many life-saving, life-improving, and life-changing "firsts."

The cardiac pacemaker. The mechanical heart valve. The supercomputer. Aviation's flight data recorder (or black box). The snowmobile. Water-skiing. Rollerblades. Crisp-crust frozen pizza. The shopping mall.

Minnesota also has great transportation advantages. Our network of highways, railways and waterways makes it easy to get materials to the factory and finished products to markets worldwide. Duluth/Superior boasts of being the largest port on the Great Lakes.

Minnesota companies are more global today. With established market strongholds in North America and throughout Europe, nation-leading initiatives in China and India, and an eye toward ground-floor entry into emerging markets worldwide, only our status as a global competitor is growing faster than our exports.

And our reputation as a great place to do business is well known to company executives outside of the United States. More than 700 affiliates of foreign-owned companies from Asia, Europe, Canada, and

Latin America are directly invested in Minnesota.

Minnesota's population is well educated. Ninety-three percent have a high school diploma or higher, ranking first nationwide, and nearly 21 percent have earned bachelor's degrees or higher, the eighth highest in the nation. Minnesota high schools traditionally rank among the highest in ACT and SAT scores.

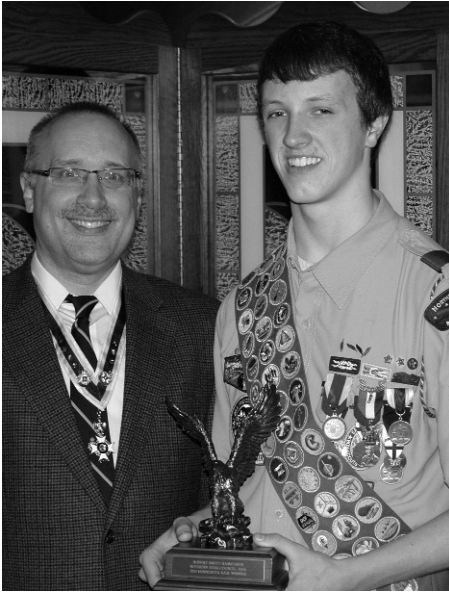
Minnesota has many challenges ahead. The current recession has hit the under-educated the hardest. The dependency ratio – those under 16 and over 65 years of age – will continue to grow, outpacing the workforce age population.

Overall McElroy has an optimistic outlook for Minnesota's future. When people ask Commissioner Dan McElroy about the role of DEED, he frequently points to the agency's mission statement: *"to support the economic success of individuals, businesses and communities by improving opportunities for growth."*

Source:

<http://www.breakthroughideas.org/page/1/Dan-McElroy.jsp>

Explore Minnesota Living,
<http://www.positivelyminnesota.com>



HUTCHINSON EAGLE SCOUT HONORED

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 annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. His mother and father were also in attendance. Bobby read his patriotic essay entitled *The Battle of Kings Mountain* which is presented below.

Bobby'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 David B. Pegado, the New York Society candidate. The first and second runners-up were Garrett F. Weeks from Utah and John M. Long from Louisiana.

Bobby's brother John won the Minnesota Spreading Wings trophy twice and went on to win the \$8,000 scholarship in 2005.

The Battle of Kings Mountain

By Robert Brett Rasmussen – 2009 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Searching for the turning point in the American Revolution? Look no further than the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Patriot and future President Thomas Jefferson called it "The turn of the tide of success." A hundred years later, Americans were still talking about the battle. In *The Winning of the West*, President Theodore Roosevelt wrote, "This brilliant victory marked the turning point of the American Revolution."

Kings Mountain was important because it came on the heels of a British victory at Camden and is a landmark battle because virtually all of the participants were Americans. With the exception of British Major Patrick Ferguson and 100 men in his command, the battle included over 1,000 Loyalist militia against 900 Patriot militia under the command of frontier colonels.

When British Lord Charles Cornwallis invaded North

Carolina on Sept. 9, 1780, it opened the door for Ferguson to establish a base camp at Gilbertown and he challenged Patriot leaders to lay down their arms before he would "lay waste to their country with fire and sword." The words outraged the Appalachian frontiersmen, who decided to take the battle to Ferguson rather than wait for him to come to them.

The Battle of Kings Mountain opened on Oct. 7, 1780 when the frontiersmen approached the mountain base at dawn. The rebels divided into eight groups with two parties assaulting the highest point of the mountain and six groups attacking the main Loyalist position around the base. Led by Colonels John Sevier and William Campbell, the groups assaulting the peak of the hill fired on the scarlet-dressed Loyalists from behind rocks and trees. When Ferguson's men countered with bayonet

charges, the rebels retreated down the hill before turning and resuming shooting. Two more times, Ferguson launched bayonet attacks and after each charge, the Frontiersmen returned to the base of the hill before resuming shooting. The strategy favored the Patriots and, after just over an hour of combat, Loyalist losses were heavy. When Ferguson was downed by several rifle balls, Loyalists lost heart and raised their arms to surrender. Eager to avenge earlier British victories, the rebels weren't interested in taking prisoners. Instead, they continued shooting and shouting, "Give 'em Tarleton's Quarter!" – referring to an earlier massacre of Patriots by British Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton. After several minutes, the shooting stopped and nearly 700 were captured. All told, 290 Loyalists were killed and another 163 were seriously wounded while Patriot casualties

included 28 killed and 58 wounded.

The outcome at Kings Mountain caught the attention of people on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Throughout the colonies, both Patriots and Loyalists had a stronger belief that independence was possible. In England, the battle was a setback to British strategy and served as a wake-up call. The British had been put on notice: The colonist's vision of freedom was real and would not die easily.

The Battle of Kings Mountain was an important event in the Revolutionary War. Along with other battles of the revolution, it showed the 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.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, January 1, 1777



WASHINGTON'S ARMY STEPS FORWARD

Trenton, New Jersey – Yesterday as the army gathered in New Jersey on December 31, Washington confronted a hard question, the most urgent of all. The enlistments of many experienced troops would expire on December 31. Some of the best regiments, seemed the most determined to depart. One of them was Glover's Marblehead mariners, who had manned the oars and brought the army across the Delaware River on Christmas night. Another unit was Haslet's First Delaware Continental Regiment, one of the best in the army. It had suffered severe losses in six months of service. Of its original 750 men, only 92 were present and fit for duty on December 22. The regiment's term of service was due to expire on New Year's Eve, and nothing could persuade them to stay. On December 30 all but six men left camp. One who remained was Colonel John Haslet, still hobbling on frozen legs after having fallen into the Delaware.

If General Washington hoped to remain in the field, he had to persuade some of his veterans to stay with him. Finally a solution was found by entrepreneurial officers of the Pennsylvania Associators, mostly Philadelphia merchants. They offered a bounty of ten dollars to men who agreed to turn out for a few more weeks of winter soldiering. The idea came from Thomas Mifflin, a Pennsylvania merchant and politician turned militia general. He suggested that Continental troops could be kept by the same means. Mifflin was at Crosswicks in New Jersey with the Pennsylvania militia and

Hitchcock's New England Continental brigade, mostly veterans from Rhode Island whose term of service was about to end.

General Mifflin assembled the Rhode Island men. They knew his history. As early as 1764 this very powerful and wealthy man had pledged his fortune to the Cause. He had soldiered with them since the siege of Boston, had shown his courage under fire at Lechmere's Point in Massachusetts, and had volunteered to serve in the rear guard at Long Island. Mifflin was a "public man," with much experience of Philadelphia politics. He was so skilled in the arts of political persuasion that he won reelection to the Assembly with 85 percent of the Philadelphia vote.

Now he faced the most difficult test. Thomas Mifflin mustered the New England regiments and rode before them, mounted on a fine horse. The New Englanders were eager to get home, but they listened to him. He spoke of the Cause, appealed to their conscience, and offered each of them ten dollars hard money if they were willing to stay for six weeks. Mifflin asked them to "poise firelocks" if they were willing to stay. To everyone's amazement the firelocks went up, nearly all of them.

The news was carried to George Washington, who was delighted by the result but appalled by the cost. He agreed to try the same appeal with the Continentals in Generals Greene and Sullivan's divisions. He mustered the New England regiments and begged them to serve for another six weeks. A sergeant

remembered that the general "personally addressed us... told us our services were greatly needed, and that we could do more for our country than we ever could at any future date, and in the most affectionate manner entreated us to stay." Then the regimental commanders asked all who would stay to step forward. "The drums beat for volunteers," he remembered, "but not a man turned out." He explained that his comrades were "worn down with fatigue and privations, had their hearts fixed on home and comforts of the domestic circle." The men watched as Washington wheeled his horse about, rode in front of the regiment, and spoke to them again.

"My brave fellows," Washington began, "you have done all I asked you to do, and more than could be reasonably expected; but your country is at stake, your wives, your houses, and all that you hold dear. You have worn yourselves out with the fatigues and hardships, but we know not how to spare you. If you will consent to stay one month longer, you will render that service to the cause of liberty, and to your country, which you probably can never do under any other circumstances."

The drums rolled again. The sergeant recalled that "the soldiers felt the force of the appeal" and began to talk among themselves. One said, "I will remain if you will." Another said, "We cannot go home under such circumstances." A few men stepped forward, then several others, then many more, and "their example was followed by nearly all who were fit for duty

in the regiment, amounting to about two hundred volunteers." These were the veterans who understood what they were being asked to do. They knew well what the cost might be.

An officer asked the general if the men should be enrolled. "No," said Washington, "men who will volunteer in such a case as this, need no enrollment to keep them to their duty."

So successful was the solution that it created a problem in its turn. Washington's pay chest was empty. Washington immediately called upon Robert Morris of Philadelphia, the Revolution's gifted and generous financier, to provide the money for the bounties as quickly as possible. On December 31, 1776, he sent an urgent message to Robert Morris. "Tomorrow the Continental Troops are all at Liberty," he wrote, "In order to get their assistance I have promised them a bounty of ten dollars if they will continue for one month – but here again a new difficulty presents itself. We have not the money."

Morris responded with alacrity, rushing 50,000 paper dollars which arrived on New Year's Eve, just in time.

Sources:

Washington's Crossing,
by David Hackett Fischer,
Oxford University Press, 2004

George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1992

NEXT MEETING

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 25, 2010.

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 2010



Minnesota's 21st Secretary of State Mark Ritchie to Speak at the Constitution Day Luncheon

As Minnesota's Secretary of State, Mark Ritchie partners with township, city, and county officials to organize elections on behalf of Minnesota's 3.7 million eligible voters.

Ritchie also oversees a wide range of services provided by the Office of Secretary of State; these include business filings, the archiving of official documents, and appointments to public commissions.

He is also responsible for administering Safe at Home, Minnesota's address confidentiality program.

For over 150 years, the Office of the Secretary of State has been committed to providing the people of Minnesota with excellent public service.

Join us at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Watch for details to be mailed to you.

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

Secretary of State Mark Ritchie to
 Speak at the Constitution Day
 Luncheon

The Unknown Revolutionary

NSSAR 120th National Congress

2010 MNSSAR

Medals & Awards Program

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society
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 2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
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THE LONELIEST MEMORIAL

Tomb honoring Revolutionary War soldier lost in Washington's shadows.

by *Christopher Lancette* – Reprinted with the author's permission from *The American Legion Magazine*, July 2010

My heart aches every time I visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution in Alexandria, Virginia. Hard to locate even if you're trying to find it on purpose, it rests in a tiny, hidden cemetery – tucked in a corner with its back up against a wall. The marble tomb is often lost in the shadows cast by nearby trees and further obscured by the figurative kind thrown by the giant memorials across the river in Washington D.C.

"Here lies a soldier of the Revolution whose identity is known but to God," the tomb reads, though time has made the inscription more faint. "His was an idealism that recognized a Supreme Being, that planted religious liberty on our shores, that overthrew despotism, that established a people's government, that wrote a Constitution setting metes and bounds of delegated authority, that fixed a standard of value upon men above gold and lifted high the torch of civil liberty along the pathway of mankind. In ourselves this soul exists as part of ours, his memory's man-

sion."

I am overwhelmed with gratitude: I love this country and I hold the greatest regard for the generation that gave birth to it.

My heart aches, though, because my pilgrimages to the Revolutionary soldier are solitary experiences. I can often linger for an hour and not see one person approach. The Old Presbyterian Meeting House that lovingly cares for its church yard cemetery reports that a meager five or six people a day pick up the pamphlet explaining what the tomb is. A canon shot away, some 11,000 people a day enter Arlington National Cemetery to view the tomb of unknown soldiers from World War I and II.

I am not the only one who wishes the Revolutionary unknown would receive more company.

"It's a shame more people don't come to see it," says Richard Azzaro, a former guard at the famous Arlington tomb and an advocate for the anonymous one in Alexandria. "It was the soldiers who secured the freedom Americans sought, not

arguments or pleas for justice. They put everything at risk and we're the heirs of the people represented here." The soldier's grave was discovered in 1826 when workmen excavating ground on a construction project broke through a munitions box containing the remains of a soldier in his Revolutionary War uniform. He was promptly reburied. In 1929, a national campaign lead by American Legion Post 24 member John Gordon erected the permanent tribute.

"These thousands who will follow you here to stand in homage before that tomb will leave this quiet little Virginia church yard better Americans," Gordon said at the Lexington-Concord Day (April 19) dedication. "They will have a clearer vision of their duties as Americans."

Over time, the tomb got overlooked.

It is still not included in Alexandria's official walking tour guide handed out at the city's visitor center. Washington tourism materials don't treat it much better. The tomb is mentioned only briefly, if at all, in guidebooks written about the area. I still can't comprehend why, though a member of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House who is writing a book on his church offers a

painful suggestion.

"The country hasn't fully embraced the Revolutionary War," Donald Dahmann says. "I think this is another indication of how we as a society have overlooked those who fought for our independence."

Azzaro, a Revolutionary War re-enactor, has been trying to change that. For more than 20 years, he and his current army, the 1st Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line (Re-created), have lead a wreath laying ceremony at the tomb during Alexandria's annual President's Day Parade. The number of observers rises every year.

When it's not such an occasion, I am tempted to utter full-throated calls for company but there's no one around to listen. No one paying homage, no one seeking a clearer vision of a duty as an American.

My heart aches.

Learn more: Visit the Web site for the Old Presbyterian Meeting House at www.opmh.org/cemetery

Christopher Lancette is a Washington D.C.-area freelance writer who often writes about the American Revolution. Read more of his pieces on his blog at <http://dcreflections.typepad.com>.



NOTES FROM THE NSSAR 120TH NATIONAL CONGRESS

Peter Arrott Dixon, MNSSAR Trustee

June 25 - July 1, 2010 – Cleveland, Ohio – A proposal by President General Howard Horne to create the position of Honorary Deputy President General of SAR to be given to the President of the French Society was defeated.

The office of Genealogist General was contested by Paul Hays of the Washington D.C. Society, who was defeated by the incumbent, Genealogist General Joe Dooley, Virginia Society.

An impressive wreath-laying ceremony with President General Edward Butler presiding was held at the President James Garfield Memorial.

Slate of Major National Officers Elected for the Year 2010-2011:

- President General – J. David Sympon
- Secretary General – Larry Magerkurth
- Treasurer General – Stephen Leishman
- Genealogist General – Joseph W. Dooley
- Registrar General – Lindsey C. Brook
- Chancellor General – Thomas E. Lawrence
- Historian General – Charles R. Lampman
- Chaplain General – Rev. A. Clark Wiser, NC

The Minuteman Recipients for 2010 are:

- Rev. Stanley DeLong (California Society)
- John C. Ellingson, Sr. (Empire State Society)
- Rev. David Hockensmith (Vermont Society)
- Thomas E. Jacks (Louisiana Society)
- Lawrence McKinley (Virginia Society)
- M. Hall Worthington (Maryland Society)

MNSSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY



May 25, 2010 – Saint Cloud Naturalization Ceremony – 90 take oaths, become citizens.



MNSSAR Color Guard and DAR ladies in Nisswa, MN on July 3rd.

2010 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

ROTC Awards by the Minnesota Society

We had medals presented in all 21 ROTC and JROTC Units in the state. The presentations were made by James F. Foster, COL Ronald McRoberts, Marvin E. Stonecipher, Larry W. Sisk, LTC A. Dean Sheper-sky, T. Truck Morrison, Timothy C. Harris, Hon. David S. Bouschor and John Hall-berg 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 2010 the Minneapolis Chapter presented medals in 24 High Schools and two Naval Sea Cadets Squadrons. Medals were also awarded to twelve 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*.



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:

- Beartown Auto Body, White Bear Lake
- Hisdahl Trophy Mfg., White Bear Lake
- LTG Power Equipment, White Bear Lake
- Rooney's Nursery, White Bear Lake
- *photo above*
- Sunset Cycle Circle Pines

CORRECTION...

The oak leaf cluster awarded to Tim Harris is for the Meritorious Medal not the Patriot Medal as reported in the Spring 2010 MNSSAR Salute.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday, January 3, 1777



THE SECOND BATTLE OF TRENTON

Trenton, New Jersey – Late on New Year’s Day, British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis arrived at the British camp in Princeton, New Jersey. Five days earlier he had been in New York, looking forward to a leave in England, where his wife was ailing. Then suddenly, with the attack on Trenton, Cornwallis’s leave was cancelled. Sir William Howe asked his most able lieutenant to take the field. The orders were clear and simple: Find the rebel army, strike quickly, and destroy it.

At dawn of January 2nd General Cornwallis ordered his army to march along the King’s Highway to Trenton. The Fourth Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Charles Mawhood, approximately 1,200 men, marched from Somerset Courthouse to Princeton to be the rear guard and the Second Brigade under Lieutenant General Alexander Leslie, with 1,000 or more men, occupied Maidenhead. With over 6,000 trained and disciplined men, Lord Cornwallis moved on Washington at Trenton.

As the combined British and Hessian force moved through Maidenhead they began to encounter American pickets, picking up sporadic fire. American resistance increased at 5-Mile Run but upon reaching the Shabakunk Creek two miles further on, a deadly volley erupted from the far bank. A strong force of Pennsylvanian and Virginian riflemen, backed by artillery, had been posted at Maidenhead, charged by Washington with delaying the British advance. Under the able command of Colonel Edward

Hand, the American riflemen would fire from a strong defensive position until the British formed and attacked. The Americans would then retreat to another position, repeating the maneuver throughout the afternoon, giving up ground slowly.

After several hours the British and Hessians forced their way into the upper part of Trenton at twilight. The Hessian troops were given the honor of retaking the town lost by their countrymen the week before. Hessian grenadiers and British Light Infantry charged down King and Queen Streets with Hand’s riflemen retreating before them under the covering fire of Rhode Island’s Continentals. Washington had prepared defenses along the Assunpink Creek which runs through Trenton. The retreating American troops poured across the bridge at the bottom of the streets, brushing against Washington himself as he sat in his saddle at the end of the bridge, firm and steady in a crisis. Among the last across were the New Jersey men coming to join the army.

Having put their cannon in place the British and Hessians assaulted the bridge, directly into the face of American artillery and muskets. On the other side, three Virginia regiments were waiting. Their leader was Colonel Charles Scott. He turned to his men and lectured them on their musketry. “Well boys,” he said, “you know the old boss has put us here to defend this bridge; and by God it must be done, let what will come. Now I want to tell you one thing. You’re all in the habit of shooting too high. You

waste your powder and lead, and I have cursed you about it a hundred times. Now I tell you what it is, nothing must be wasted, every crack must count. For that reason boys, whenever you see them fellows first begin to put their feet upon this bridge do you shin ‘em.” His men had often heard him explain the reason why. “Take care now and fire low,” he said, “Bring down your pieces, fire at their legs, one man wounded in the leg is better than a dead one for it takes two more to carry him off and there is three gone. Leg them, damn ‘em, I say leg them.”

The Hessian grenadiers came forward with bravery and determination. Every American in range fired on them, and yet the Hessians kept on, marching into a storm of fire. According to one account the “advanced ab’t half way over the bridge when they were repulsed.” The Hessians lost thirty-one killed and wounded in that very small space; another twenty-nine came forward to surrender rather than retreat through the heavy fire.

Then came a third set of attacks. A force of British infantry moved forward and tried to seize the bridge. As they approached, Henry Knox’s artillery made ready to fire on them, altogether “eighteen or nineteen pieces.” Sergeant White remembered, “The enemy came on in solid columns; we let them come on some ways. Then, by a signal given, we all fired together. The enemy retreated off the bridge and formed again, and we were ready for them. Our whole artillery was again discharged on them.

Still it was not over. The

broken British columns formed yet again behind the bridge. “Officers reformed the ranks and again they rushed the bridge, and again was the shower of bullets pushed upon them with redoubled fury. This time the column broke before it reached the center of the bridge, and their retreat was again followed by a hearty shout from our line.” For the American’s it was a moment of triumph and release.

Sergeant White continues, “They came on a third time. We loaded with canister shot and let them come nearer. We fired all together again, and such destruction it made, you cannot conceive. The bridge looked red as blood, with their killed and wounded and red coats.”

That was the end of it. The British infantry retreated, and the Americans came forward to the bridge. For the American troops it was a great victory. For their general it was a model of brilliantly managed defensive battle in the same town where Colonel Rall had fought, but with very different results.

Source: Washington’s Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, 2004

Ten Crucial Days – The 2nd Battle of Trenton Presented by John Mills, Curator – Princeton Battlefield State Park

NEXT MEETING

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Don’t miss it... Secretary of State Mark Ritchie will be our featured guest!

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 2010



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 25, 2010. Minnesota Society SAR and Minnesota SR President, James Foster, called the assemblage to order at twelve o’clock noon and welcomed those in attendance. Compatriot Chuck Morrell led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and compatriot Jacob Beckel led the Pledge to the SAR. MNSSAR Chaplain Rev. Richard Vork gave a very eloquent invocation.

A delicious meal, with each ordering from the menu, was enjoyed by all. The total attendance was forty-seven.

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

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Secretary of State Mark Ritchie
 Speaks at the Annual Constitution
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Arthur Finnell Publishes a
 Vital Records CD

.....

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





SECRETARY OF STATE MARK RITCHIE SPEAKS AT THE ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON



Minneapolis, MN – Minnesota's twenty-first Secretary of State, Mark Ritchie, was the guest of honor at the joint meeting of the Minnesota Society SAR and the Minnesota SR held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 25, 2010.

Speaking just 38 days before the general election, Mr. Ritchie announced that he was speaking to our group not as a candidate but as a civic-minded citizen. His topic was entitled "Our Civic Engagement Heritage."

Minnesota's civic heritage is deep, long-standing, has multiple origins and is ever changing to adapt and absorb new people, new conditions and new challenges. Part of

our "Brand Minnesota" is the peoples civic-mindedness in politics, business, education, arts, culture and religion. People and businesses have been attracted to Minnesota for over 150 years. The Better Business Bureau of Minnesota

was the first in the nation. The ninth and tenth Rotary Clubs were located in Minnesota.

The early settlers of Minnesota were Yankee ship captains, lumber barons and land developers. They were civic-minded, world-minded and freedom loving people. These early settlers founded the University of Minnesota Medical School, the Minneapolis Park System and the Twin Cities early transit system.

Minnesota's military heritage was civic-minded as well. Minnesota was the first to respond to President Lincoln's call to arms. Our National Guard

has been called in for every war as well as our reserves.

Minnesota's political leaders were nationally prominent. Harold Stassen was the youngest governor of Minnesota. Four months into his third term Stassen resigned and enlisted in the Navy (April 27, 1943). Other prominent Minnesota politicians include Al Quie, Hubert Humphrey and Walter Mondale, all of whom were civic-minded.

The people of Minnesota also believe in the preservation of our history. Minnesota has over 400 local historical societies and history museums.

Minnesota almost always leads the nation in voter turn-out, especially in northern Minnesota. While visiting with Minnesotans Ritchie would ask why they vote. Answers from around the state were similar: "We love this place." "We take care of the things we love." "Our

forefathers fought and died to give us our freedom and it is my duty to vote."

Ritchie mentioned challenges ahead – among them the passing of the "greatest generation" of World War II veterans. "We must capture their stories and hand off the baton to the next generation." said Ritchie

Mark Ritchie pointed out that Minnesota leads the nation in healthcare, education and charitable contributions. Ritchie stated that we must continue to be invested in "Brand Minnesota."

Mark Ritchie closed by stating that he is proud to be Minnesota's Secretary of State.

All agreed that it was an outstanding program. President Foster presented Mr. Ritchie with the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal which he proudly wore for the photograph accompanying this article.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota Society's 122nd Annual General Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 8, 2011. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.



MNSSAR NEW MEMBERS REPORT



Henry Terry (Nick) Morrison, Jr., James Everett Hagen and David Adriance Foster

President Foster presented new members with certificates and rosettes. Present were James Everett Hagen and David Adriance Foster. Compatriot Thomas Truxtun (Truck) Morrison and his brother, Henry Terry Morrison, Jr., received a memorial certificate in memory of their father, who had served in both World Wars. A supplemental ancestor certificate was presented to Jonathan Lee Gustafson.

New MNSSAR Members Since Jan. 1, 2010:

<i>NSSAR#</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
176089	Wallace William Frelander	Moses Beeman
176312	Robert Fergus Dunlop	Isaac Coit
176559	Michael Ronald Bradley	Joseph Bradley
177003	Malcolm Coit Dunlop	Isaac Coit
177266	James Everitt Hagen	Roger Toothacker
177462	David Adriance Foster	Hezekiah Howell
177781	Daniel Clifford Carlson	Ebenezer West
178050	Colton Lloyd Jones*	Elijah Lincoln

A list of compatriots with supplemental applications will appear in the next issue.

* Colton Jones paper work was signed by the National Society SAR the day he passed away – September 20, 2010. He was the grandson of John Halberg Jones.

Finnell Publishes Vital Records CD



Compatriot Arthur Louis Finnell announced that he had recently published a CD containing Episcopal Vital Records: Minnesota; Volume I and Volume II – a one of a kind collection of some 98 parish and baptism and burial records through 1915; and some 11 Episcopal cemetery transcripts.

Cost of the CD is \$25 including postage. Make checks payable to The Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota. Order from Historiographer, Arthur Louis Finnell: The Episcopal Center, 1730 Clifton Place Suite 201, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

...American Eagle continued

“Thank God your Excellency is safe,” he shouted. Taking his hand, Washington said, “Bring up the troops. The day is our own!”

The American troops did come forward, screaming battle cries, driving the astonished British down the road toward Trenton. Washington led the pursuit crying “It’s a fine fox chase, my boys!” It was, indeed, the redcoats shedding their knapsacks, canteens and even muskets. Washington’s face gleamed with fierce wild joy so powerful that he almost rode into the arms of the British dragoons, who had turned about a mile below Stoney Brook bridge to bare their sabers and cover Mawhood’s retreat. Only the intervention of an aide induced Washington to gallop back to his troops.

There he learned with rising jubilation that Sullivan’s force had swept a third British regiment out of Princeton. About half the British Fortieth had barricaded themselves in the College on New Jersey’s famous Nassau Hall, but a single cannon shot from Captain Alexander Hamilton’s battery had persuaded them to surrender.

Sources:

Washington’s Crossing, by David Hackett Fischer, Oxford University Press, 2004

George Washington’s War by Robert Leckie, HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1992

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday, January 4, 1777



AMERICAN ARMY TAKES PRINCETON

Princeton, New Jersey – Just two nights ago darkness halted the fighting of the Second Battle of Trenton. British General Lord Charles Cornwallis had made his approach march and was exactly where he wanted to be, with Washington exactly where Cornwallis wanted him. Washington was between two streams, the Assunpink Creek at his front, the Delaware River at his back. If he retreated across the Delaware, Cornwallis would smash him; if he tried to escape into the southern end of New Jersey, he would still be in a trap. Cornwallis told his staff he would “bag the old fox” in the morning. Brigadier Sir William Erskine remarked “If Washington is the general I think him to be, he will not be there tomorrow morning.”

That night on January 2 Washington saw nothing but unhappy faces at a council of war. Just as at Long Island or White Plains, the British could employ their favorite maneuver: hold the Patriots in place with a frontal assault, while a strong force forded the creek to turn their flank and get into the rear. Washington was aware of this maneuver, but he also knew that the unguarded Quaker bridge several miles beyond the British left flank led to the little-used Quaker Road to Princeton. So he did not ask his generals for advice; rather he electrified them with his proposal to slip away in a night march and overwhelm the outnumbered garrison at Princeton.

One problem however; the muddy roads might make it impossible to move even light cannon. The last two days had

been unseasonable warm and the roads had been a mass of mud and slush. Cornwallis had been unable to strike quickly at Trenton because his regiments had been mired on the highway from Princeton. In the night, as the American army was preparing to march, the weather changed so suddenly that the ground froze solid within a few hours.

As night fell, campfires were lighted and fed fast and furiously until there were dozens of bonfires blazing on the heights above the Assunpink. Baggage and guns were sent on ahead to the Quaker Bridge, the wagon wheels wrapped in rags to muffle the sound of their going. Regiments were quietly ordered to fall in. Four or five hundred men were left behind to feed the fires and make a racket with clanging picks and shovels – to lead the British to believe they were digging in deeper. The night was utterly black and the weather was bone-chilling cold. The silent columns moved out over blessedly frozen roads.

Dawn began to break as they neared Stoney Brook bridge, about three miles from Princeton. It would be a fine day, but cold, a brilliant sun rising into a high blue sky. The sun’s rays glistening on the trees and grass white and wet with frost. Now Washington formed his force into two columns. General John Sullivan peeled off to the right to attack Princeton in its rear. General Nathaniel Greene, with Washington, made for the Post Road from Trenton, intending to make a frontal assault on the town.

But there were the British on the Post Road, the Seventeenth and Fifty-fifth regiments, together with an escort of thirty dragoons, all commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Francis Mawhood of the Seventeenth. Suddenly Mawhood started at the sight of the American advance parties marching up the Quaker Road. So did General Hugh Mercer, commander of the Yankee “brigade,” who sighted Mawhood a few seconds later. Both men instantly grasped the significance of a nearby piece of high ground on which stood an orchard surrounded by a hedge fence, a farmhouse and a barn. At once they raced each other for possession of it. Mercer got there first. But he had with him only 120 men, while Mawhood had about 350 and two light cannon.

Taking cover in the orchard, the Americans began firing at the oncoming redcoats. In the interim, Mawhood’s artillery opened fire, to be duelled by Captain Daniel Neil with his New Jersey militia gunners. Colonel Haslet also arrived puffing with his Delaware riflemen. Now the British regulars launched a bayonet charge with loud cries. Mercer’s Pennsylvania riflemen could not fire and load fast enough to stop them. A few redcoats fell, but the main body came forward with slanting steel. The Yankees broke and ran. Mercer and Haslet tried to rally them, but the men paid them no heed. After a rifle butt drove Mercer to the earth, he arose with drawn sword to face a dozen howling lobsterbacks. Seven bayonets

plunged into him, and he sank to the earth gushing blood. Haslet also was killed, with a bullet in the brain. Captain John Fleming with twenty Virginians tried to make a stand, but they were stabbed to the earth. One of Fleming’s Lieutenants had thirteen bayonet wounds.

Now the routed Yankees were pouring back over the Quaker Road, washing around the big man on the splendid white horse who had come galloping up to the sound of battle. Waving his hat, he shouted to them “Parade with us, my brave fellows!” – riding farther toward the advancing British as though expecting them to follow him. But no one did. Accompanied by Colonel John Fitzgerald, the American war chief rode among the demoralized rebels, urging them to re-form. The men still sulked until the New England brigade went into line on the American right, holding fast to make that ten-dollar bounty perhaps the best investment in American military history. Then the Philadelphia militia joined them, followed by some of Sullivan’s troops and Mercer’s men. Washington personally led them toward the approaching British. “Halt and fire!” he shouted, and as the Americans opened up so did the British. Washington was between both volleys, and Colonel Fitzgerald in horror put his hat over his eyes. When Fitzgerald lifted his hat, Washington was still there, calmly sitting on his horse. In relief Fitzgerald rode toward his chief.

continued inside...

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 2011

MNSSAR 122ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



New dual-member with the Ohio Society, Ross Allyn Matlack, III, incoming MNSSAR President COL Ronald McRoberts and new member David Noble.

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 8, 2011. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President James Fredrick Foster. Vice President Ronald McRoberts led the Pledge to the U.S. flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave the Invocation. Jones thanked his fellow compatriots for their prayers during the recent months following the untimely death of his grandson. He informed all of the health problems of MNSSAR Chaplain Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork and the Minneapolis Chapter

Continued inside...

**INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...**

.....
**MNSSAR 122nd Annual General
Meeting Held at Jax Cafe**

American Eagle

**Franklin's Print Shop and the
Dingy Hands of Democracy**

**Minnesota Society SAR
Officers for 2011**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MNSSAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chaplain Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr. and offered prayers for them. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Chapters conducted their business.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Larry Wray Sisk. Noting that the Saint Paul Chapter has a much smaller treasury than the Minneapolis Chapter, COL Ronald McRoberts made a generous donation to the chapter and challenged others to do so too. During the Minnesota business meeting Compatriot Jones led an auction of two patriotic books, with the proceeds of \$110 going to the Saint Paul Chapter. The book titles were "*Washington's Spies*" and "*The Confederate Navy*."

Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that eleven of the usually twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2010 and their students were presented with medals the past May.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2010, five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for showing their patriotism and love of country by regularly flying the flag.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Presi-

dent Robert Kahl. Minneapolis Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2010, and that they also had presentations at two squadrons of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2011 program. In addition a letter was sent to Bethany Academy inviting their participation.

Compatriot Thomas Truxtun (Truck) Morrison spoke of the success of fund-raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership. During 2010 we had nine new members, one reinstatement, and two deaths, giving a net increase of eight, for a membership of 136, plus four dual members. However, there are still five that owe 2011 dues, who, if not paid by 25 January 2011, will be dropped for non-payment of dues. David Noble was welcomed as a new member and presented a rosette. His certificate has not yet arrived from NSSAR. Also welcomed was Ross Allyn Matlack, III as a dual member, whose primary society is Ohio, bringing our dual

members to five.

Minnesota Society Endowment Trust Fund

The Trustees proposed that the 2010 interest of \$469.94 be used to pay the following donation items:

- Duluth Public Library \$50.00
 - Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00
 - Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00
 - Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00
 - Minnesota Genealogical Journal \$26.78
 - The balance of \$298.16 to the MNSSAR Color Guard.
- The principal as of 31 December 2010 totaled \$17,072.00.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to 904 new Eagle Scouts in 2010 and has received 14 entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting. A motion was passed commending the Committee and its chairman for their outstanding work.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on the ROTC Medal Program. Letters have already been mailed to the 14 JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota. Several Compatriots have assisted with the presentations over the last few years and several

spoke of their experiences at these ceremonies and their desire to do this service again.

Compatriot Paul Kent Theisen reported for the Minnesota SAR Color Guard. The group has made several appearances and have many additional appearances already scheduled. He asked for more volunteers to serve in this outstanding unit. A motion was passed to award Compatriot Theisen the bronze Color Guard Medal.

Other Business

COL Ronald McRoberts stated that he was preparing a report for the Executive Committee on the project to publish a booklet/pamphlet on the life of Stephen Taylor, the only known revolutionary soldier buried in Minnesota.

Mention was made of the Washington Day Luncheon at Jax Café on Saturday, 12 February 2011. Jax will again do the Colonial Era luncheon, with three entrée choices.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Comp. Jones.

MNSSAR President McRoberts, installed into office minutes earlier, read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



FRANKLIN'S PRINT SHOP AND THE DINGY HANDS OF DEMOCRACY

By Christopher Lancette – Reprinted with the author's permission from *DCReflections.typepad.com*

Philadelphia, PA – I stand on the cobblestone street in Franklin Court and imagine Ben Franklin walking into his print shop in 1729, the year he and a partner purchased *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. The one-time apprentice who learned the printing business through the sweat of his brow smiles as he glances at the young men following in his footsteps.

One hovers over a table typesetting the next edition – reading a hand-written document and then placing tiny metal blocks with letters on them in what looks like a tray with wooden strips forming the borders of what will become printed pages. The physical dexterity required is just part of the man's challenge. He also has to lay in the tiny blocks upside down and backward so that the documents read left to right and right side up when stamped on to a page.

Another man is covered in the black, sticky ink he's applying to a block of type with padded leather balls. Once properly coated, he inserts into the press a damp piece of cloth that's wet enough to absorb the ink, slides the block in position, and uses his labor-born pectorals and arms to force the block onto the page. He releases the lever, grabs what looks like a brick oven pizza remover, pulls the paper off

the press and hangs it on an overhead rack to dry. Then he steps back to the press to start all over again.

It is grueling, repetitive, and dingy work. It's made worse by the overpowering odor that clings to their hands and attacks their nostril hair... chamberlye. That's the polite term for the urine-based cleaning solution that had to be applied to the equipment.

Yes, trace the roots of our democracy and you find they pass through chamber pots and come out like Andy Dufresne clean on the other side. You find the un-sung workday heroes who cranked out the newspapers, pamphlets and books that enlightened the colonists and made possible the American Revolution.

Franklin had tremendous admiration and respect for the power of the printing press. He also advanced the profession. He was the first to insert cartoons and maps in a newspaper. The May 9, 1754 edition of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* contained America's first political cartoon – the serpentine “Join, or Die” illustration that called for colonial unity.

I too am awed by what the pressmen of the 18th century achieved.

“Reading's the means by which the lowest man can lift himself up from a state of ignorance,” a press owner

told a newly arrived colonist in volume one of John Jakes' epic historical fiction series about the Revolution, *The Kent Family Chronicles*.

My emotional connection to the printing press runs deep. I joined my school newspaper in eighth grade and stayed with it through junior high and high school.

A bright-eyed University of Georgia student back in the long-time-agos, I had the fortune to be the founding managing editor of *The Campus Times*. The upstart paper sought to compete with the long-standing student paper. I remember the day our first issue thundered through the two-story press bringing our ideas to life: “That's a powerful tool you got there,” the old man running the facility said. He implored us to use it wisely.

I have treated the mass-produced word with sacrosanct respect ever since. The reverence has followed me through my careers in journalism and public relations and is in my heart every time I turn on my computer to write on this new-fangled treasure we call the Internet.

I have also had the divine pleasure to hold in my hands numerous, original Revolutionary publications that paved the way for independence and democracy. I've read books owned and inscribed by Thomas Jeffer-

son, other books Franklin himself wrote in, and a first edition of *Common Sense*.

Through the fortune of knowing the right person, I have also held in my hands a copy of the Declaration of Independence that was among the first to roll off John Dunlap's Philadelphia press on the very afternoon the fellas in the Pennsylvania State House stuck it to 'ol King George. Tears filled my eyes the moment the document was placed in my hands because I recognized immediately that I had reached the zenith of what a patriot and a student of history can experience.

My head was spinning from the thrill.

I poured over the words so familiar to me now and graciously returned the document to its proprietor.

I sat there, stunned, for what seemed like a long time. Then I gave thanks not just to the famous 56 men but to the countless unheralded souls who fought black, sticky ink and pots full of piss to educate our people and give us a nation.

Christopher Lancette is a Washington D.C.-area freelance writer born in St. Paul. Read more of his history pieces by clicking on the American history section of his blog at <http://dcReflections.typepad.com>

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday April 4, 1777

NEW JERSEY FORAGE WAR

Morristown, New Jersey – Following the Battle of Princeton on January 3, 1777, General Washington faced the dilemma of being caught between Lord Cornwallis in Trenton, NJ and the rest of the British army at New Brunswick. Rather than make an attempt on the British outpost at New Brunswick with his exhausted troops, Washington moved his army up the Millstone River valley toward Morristown, a place he knew could be strongly fortified and used as winter quarters. Cornwallis and the remaining British and Hessian troops in and around Trenton and Princeton withdrew to New Brunswick to regroup after the battle at Princeton.

During this time, militia companies mustered to assist the Continental Army. The militia was anything but organized. On a local level, they simply took advantage of opportunities that came their way. They realized they were not strong enough to duplicate Washington's conquest of Trenton or Princeton, by attacking some of the fortified garrison towns, but they could disrupt both the flow of information and supplies. Constantly being intercepted, the British couriers could not carry dispatches between New York City, the headquarters of the British Army, and the numerous New Jersey garrison. This proved very demoralizing. Every British garrison wanted to know, on a daily basis,

where Washington and his Army was, for fear they would become the next Trenton. On January 3rd, 1777, Hessian Chaplain Philipp Waldeck wrote home: "...one can no longer lie down to sleep without thinking this is the last night, the last night of freedom. Instead of undressing in the evening as usual, one becomes accustomed to dress completely, and to go to bed in this manner."

The captured supplies were sent to General Washington in substantial quantities. So much so that it forced the British to increase the armed escorts for their supply wagons, which proved not to be a deterrent, but just supplying more targets for the militia. General Washington realized he had been handed an opportunity – forage and fodder. He wrote Congress "...if their horses are reduced this winter, it will be impossible for them to take to the field in the Spring." Obtaining the amount of fodder needed for the entire British Army in North America was a supply nightmare. The main source of fodder was collected from local farms, gathered by foraging parties. Washington's orders – "stop the foraging parties!" Thus started the foraging war!

On January 4th, Captain John Stryker, leading the Somerset Horse Unit intercepted a British supply train near Ten Mile Run and captured it. The wagons were filled with warm woolen winter clothes. These



much needed supplies were sent to General Washington.

The next three days, the militia attacked the British and Hessians at Newark, Rahway and Bound Brook. The Militia attacked the Hessian patrols near Elizabethtown, a heavily fortified and garrisoned town. Captain George von Haacke was ordered to take a force of 60 Hessian Infantry and a squadron of British Dragoons and clear the area around the town. They were attacked, and only some of the Dragoons managed to make it back to Elizabethtown. General Howe, safe (and warm) at his New York City headquarters immediately ordered Elizabethtown abandoned. The British left in such a hurry that George Washington notified Congress that the British had: "...evacuated Elizabeth Town with so much precipitation that we made 100 prisoners and took the baggage of two regiments,

besides a quantity of provisions." This astonishing turn of events all occurred within a fortnight of the taking of Trenton! The tables had been turned!

The British also abandoned the Loyalists, leaving them to fend for themselves. Many of the Loyalist troops changed sides, joining the American Army. Citizens that had taken the oath of allegiance to the Crown swore a new allegiance to Congress. "Many of the inhabitants of Monmouth County who received written protections, are now determined to return them to his Britannic Majesty's Commissioners in cartridges."

By the end of January the New Jersey Militia, now reinforced, by Washington, with units from the Continental Line became more brazen. On the 20th at Van Nest Mill, General Philemon Dickinson led 400 New Jersey Militia and

50 Pennsylvania Riflemen against 600 British regulars. The British prevented Dickinson from attacking over a bridge, so he led his men downstream, forded the ice choked Millstone River, flanked the British and launched a surprise charge. The British suffered 25 killed or wounded and 12 taken prisoner. In addition, they lost 43 supply wagons, 104 irreplaceable horses, 115 head of cattle and 70 sheep.

The British were not slow to react. They realized that they had lost the initiative and had to take action to recover. On February 1st, Sir William Erskine set a trap. He sent out a small foraging party, but just out of sight he hid the 42nd Highlanders, some light grenadiers, Hessians and eight artillery pieces.

The Patriot force, the 5th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line took the bait. The ambush of the Americans failed. They fought with so much ferocity that they drove the superior British force back. The British suffered 136 killed or wounded.

Lord Cornwallis decided that he would personally take to the field and stop the carnage. He, with six other generals, led twelve Regiments into the New Jersey countryside. The Americans were smart enough to avoid a general action with such a superior force, but constantly harassed

the flanks and rear of Lord Cornwallis' column. It was a repeat of the British retreat from Concord, Massachusetts.

To the North, the British Soldiers of the Sixth, Seventh and Twenty-sixth Regiments of Foot were stationed in Hackensack. The interdiction of the New Jersey Militia had successfully prevented supplies from reaching them, they were literally starving. Additionally, as the northern most British garrison, they were rightfully concerned that the American forces stationed in the Hudson Highlands could attack them from the North. They abandoned Hackensack and marched to the eastern shore of New Jersey, where they could be resupplied and protected by the Royal Navy's guns laying at anchor in the Hudson River.

American Brigadier General William Maxwell, Irish born, with a heavy accent, known as 'Scotch Willie' to his men, undertook the coordination of the many militia units. He organized them into a formidable fighting force that met and defeated the British at every turn.

Colonel Charles Mawhood, one of the better British Officers, led the British Third Brigade, which included the famed Forty-Second Highland Regiment (The Black Watch) supported by a Regiment of Grenadiers and a Regiment of Light Infantry into New Jersey

in a desperate attempt to gather forage. Like failed attempts before, he intended to trap the Americans attacking his foragers. 'Scotch Willie' Maxwell was waiting for him. At Rahway, Mawhood sprang his trap. But Maxwell had set up a trap too. He had Colonel Edward Hand's Pennsylvanians, Colonel George Stricker's Maryland Regiment and Colonel John Broadhead's Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment arrayed around him. The trap sprung, and the British suffered heavy casualties, losing 100 men. Their forage wagons returned not with fodder for their horses but filled with wounded soldiers. The American losses were five killed and nine wounded.

On March 8th, now very desperate for fodder, a force of 2,000 crack troops was dispatched. At Bonhamtown, they had the misfortune of encountering 'Scotch Willie'. A British officer who survived the engagement wrote that they had marched into "a nest of American hornets." The British lost 60 men, the Americans 20.

Up until January 1777, the British held the American's fighting ability in utter contempt. In just a few weeks that all changed. On March 17th, 1777, Colonel William Harcourt, commander of the elite British Sixteenth Light Dragoons wrote his father, The Earl of Harcourt, imparting his

opinion of the American soldiers. "...they are now become a formidable enemy... they seem to be ignorant of the precision and order, and even in principle by which large bodies are moved, but they possess some of the requisites for making good troops, such as extreme cunning, great industry in moving ground and felling of wood, activity and a spirit of enterprise upon any advantage."

Between the attack on Trenton and the beginning of April, General Howe had lost an estimated 2,887 killed or captured. The victorious year of 1776 saw the total British losses at 1,510. When Howe invaded New York he commanded 31,625 troops of which only 24,464 were considered fit for duty. A report filed by Howe on January 8th, 1777 states that he had 22,957 men of which only about 14,000 were still fit for duty.

Not denoted in the report was that the British losses were heaviest in their best Regiments. Howe wrote London asking for an additional 15,000 reinforcements. The British government had already stretched its resources to provide the original 32,000 man army.

Sources:

Donald N. Moran –
<http://www.revolutionarywar-archives.org/newjerseyforage.html>
 – Sons of Liberty Chapter,
 California Society SAR



2011 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.....COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Vice President.....Larry Wray Sisk
 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.....Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

James Fredrick Foster	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.
Paul Victor William E. Miller, Ph.D.	Robert Arthur Minish
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	John Charles Sassaman
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 2012.....Michael Scott Swisher, PP
 Trustee ending January 2013.....John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Trustee ending January 2014.....Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Cleveland, Ohio in July 2010:

National Trustee for Minnesota...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

President.....Rehn Douglas Smith
 Vice President.....Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Secretary-Treasurer.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Keene Smith, Jr.
 Board of Managers.....Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
 Michael Scott Swisher
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

President.....John Charles Sassaman
 Vice President.....Charles Edward Boyles
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Timothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain.....Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of Managers.....James Fredrick Foster
 COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Larry Wray Sisk

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual George Washington Day Luncheon will be held at the Jax Cafe on Saturday, February 12, 2011. Festivities begin at 11:30 am and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. *You won't want to miss this meeting. – The luncheon will feature a menu from the Colonial era!*

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 2011

2011 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

Minneapolis, MN – Thirty-one members of the Minnesota Society SAR along with spouses, guests, and members of the Minnesota SR, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 52. The chefs at Jax Cafe had prepared a colonial-era meal with choice of three entrees, including Beef Brisket, Virginia Ham, and Stuffed Game Hen. The assemblage greeted Executive Chef Bob Foster and Sous Chef Mike Olson with a hearty applause for the outstanding meal they had prepared.

SAR Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones introduced new member Dennis Sabourin Walsh and he was presented his rosette. President Ronald McRoberts presented Hon. Paul Kent Theisen, Captain of the MNSSAR Color Guard, the NSSAR Bronze Color Guard Medal and Certificate.



Dennis Sabourin Walsh



Hon. Paul Kent Theisen

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

Minnesota: A Global Competitor
 is the Topic of the Day at the
 Annual Washington Luncheon

Hutchinson Eagle Scout
 Honored

The Battle of Guilford Court
 House – Robert Brett Rasmussen –
 2010 Eagle Scout Contest Winner

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





“MINNESOTA: A GLOBAL COMPETITOR” IS THE TOPIC OF THE DAY AT THE ANNUAL WASHINGTON LUNCHEON



Edward Dieter, Deputy Director of the Minnesota Trade Office, delivered a fascinating oration entitled “Minnesota – A Global Competitor.”

He started his address by stating that trade has been essential to America since before the United States was independent – one might even say since before it was discovered. Columbus sailed in this direction in hopes of finding a shorter and more secure route to trade with the Orient.

As America was settled, much of the trade of the British colonies was with England. It is not an exaggeration to say that the American Revolution had its roots in the British efforts to restrict and tax colonial trade. The Sugar

Act, the Stamp Act, the Townsend Acts, and perhaps most famously, the Tea Act, culminating in the Boston Tea Party and the occupation of Boston, all were aimed at taxing trade or forcing the colonies to purchase certain goods from Britain. The colonists’ resistance to these measures led directly to the Revolution. Even as broader issues such as taxation without representation and the rights of the colonists as British citizens became the principles for which our ancestors fought, the roots of the conflict can be found in the restrictions on trade.

After winning our independence, the many problems of foreign and interstate commerce were key factors in the decision by the Founding Fathers that the Articles of Confederation were inadequate and a Constitutional Convention “to form a more perfect union” was necessary.

The U.S. today is not only still the largest economy in the world but we are a little larger than China, Japan and Germany combined. The U.S. is also still the number-one manufacturer in the world – ahead

of China, Japan, and ahead of Germany. The big difference between the U.S. and China or Germany is that more of what we manufacture is for domestic consumption.

He then went on to talk about Minnesota Trade:

Minnesota companies, both large and small, are players in the world market. Minnesota GSP was approximately \$267 billion in 2010. Year in and year out we export about ten percent of our total production.

Minnesota’s main manufactured exports are computers and electronics, followed by industrial machinery, medical devices and transportation. These four sectors make up about two-thirds of our manufactured exports.

Naturally our number-one market is Canada. China has been our number-two market since 2005. Minnesota companies ship more than \$1 billion in manufactured goods to China every year, and the addition of services and agriculture brings the total to more than \$2 billion.

After China, Japan ranks as our state’s third market in 2010, followed

by Mexico and Germany.

Minnesota is a global player in world markets. We have great multinational companies like 3M, Cargill and Medtronic, but we also have companies in the state that are shipping products to more countries than they have employees. Nearly one in five manufacturing jobs in the state depends on exports.

Today even more than 200 years ago, U.S. trade with the rest of the world is critical for our entire economy. The economic prosperity of Minnesota is closely tied with the rest of the world.

American and Minnesota companies have the products, skills and determination to succeed in this fast growing market. Many of them already are. Companies that export are more likely to pay better wages and have better benefits, grow sales faster, are less likely to go out of business, and create more jobs. The Minnesota Trade Office works to help Minnesota companies to compete in the global marketplace every day.



MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT WINS FIRST PLACE!

Robert Brett Rasmussen, 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: Robert Rasmussen, Minnesota – \$8,000 scholarship
- First Runner-up: Garrett Weeks of Utah – \$4,000
- Second Runner-up: Harrison Hatcher of Florida – \$2,000

Bobby, from Hutchinson, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance

and Luncheon as the Minnesota winner. His mother and father were also in attendance. Bobby read his patriotic essay entitled *The Battle of Guilford Court House* which is presented below.

Bobby'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 \$8,000 scholarship.

This is the third year in a row that Bobby won the Spreading Wings trophy as the Minnesota contest winner.

The Battle of Guilford Court House

By Robert Brett Rasmussen – 2010 MNSSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner and NSSAR Winner

There was often a fine line between victory and defeat during battles of the Revolutionary War. In some cases, victory was so muddled it took weeks to sort out the real winner.

Need evidence? Consider the Battle of Guilford Court House where American forces retreated and left the British with a battlefield and apparent victory. In the months that followed, the results became more clear and the battle is remembered as one of the most decisive of the revolution.

The Revolutionary War began in Lexington, Massachusetts in 1775 and for three years, most of the fighting occurred in the northern colonies. In 1778, the British turned their attention to the south and claimed major victories in Savannah and Charleston. Eager to gain control of the south, British General Charles Cornwallis sought a climactic battle

which would deliver a knockout punch.

American fortunes were in the hands of General Nathaniel Greene, who was determined to avoid a battle until his army had reached peak strength. Having surrendered large areas of land to buy time, Greene was finally ready for the confrontation with Cornwallis and prepared for battle at Guilford Court House inside the present-day city of Greensboro, North Carolina. Greene commanded a force of 4,400 which included 1,700 Continentals and 2,700 militia. Although outnumbered with an army of 1,900, Cornwallis was certain the British would overcome the rebels just as they'd done on scores of other battlefields.

On the morning of March 15, 1781, Greene deployed his men for three lines of battle. The fighting began about noon when the British approached the first line, a

group of North Carolina militia deployed behind a rail fence. Although the line quickly collapsed, the militia used a barrage of musket fire to inflict heavy casualties before retreating.

As the British advanced, they faced a greater obstacle in the second line, which was comprised of Virginia militia. The one-hour skirmish resulted in more losses for the Redcoats, who were finally able to break through and advanced toward the final line. The heaviest fighting took place on the third line, where Greene had stationed his Continentals. After an exchange of musket fire and a barrage by British cannons, the Americans broke off and retreated from the field.

The entire battle lasted just 90 minutes. Although the British had technically defeated the Americans, they lost 25 percent of their men and were spread across a large area without food or shelter.

The serious losses of manpower left the British too weak to pursue Greene's "defeated" army and unable to occupy the outposts of North Carolina. As a result, Cornwallis made the fatal decision to lead his army to Virginia, where seven months later he was defeated at Yorktown. Conversely, the American force marched south and fought battles that liberated South Carolina and Georgia.

The Battle of Guilford Court House was an important event in the Revolutionary War and showed how victories aren't always what they appear. For the British, an apparent victory set in motion the consequences of ultimate defeat. For the patriots, it showed how a short-lived retreat didn't diminish the resolve and spirit of the American people – attributes which served the colonies well during the revolution and have kept our country strong for future generations.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday April 29, 1777



BRITISH RAID DANBURY CONNECTICUT

New Haven, Conn. – About three o'clock the morning of April 26, there was a loud pounding on Brigadier General Benedict Arnold's door. The breathless announcement that fifteen hundred British regulars and the Prince of Wales Loyalists had landed at Cedar Point, some three miles east of Norwalk, Conn. on the Saugatuck River, and had marched to Weston, where they had bivouacked for the night. Apparently, the courier told Arnold, their target was the main American supply base in Connecticut, located twenty-three miles inland at Danbury. Arnold was soon whipping his horse over muddy roads in a cold downpour, the aged General David Wooster was at his side. Behind them rode one hundred New Hampshire militia. At Fairfield, they learned that five hundred militiamen under General Gold S. Silliman were also pursuing the British toward Danbury.

Brigadier General William Tryon, the deposed governor of New York, probably suggested the plan to attack the American supply base at Danbury. The plan was conceived as a punitive raid, despite the British shortage of fodder and foodstuffs. Brigadier General James Agnew was assigned co-leader with Tryon of the expedition, but the command seems to have devolved upon Brigadier General William Erskine. Earlier that winter, Erskine had led a foraging expedition to New Jersey in which "he routed the rebels with great slaughter; he took no prisoners."

At five pm on April 26th, the British reached Danbury and set fire to the ammunition and supply depots. Then they marched to nearby Ridgefield and set fire to the Presbyterian church, which was being used as a military warehouse. They also burned houses belonging to Patriots.

With six hundred men and three field pieces, Arnold and Wooster marched through heavy rain all afternoon, coming to Bethel, within two miles of the British, by eleven that night. In the distance they could see the flames of burning buildings. Their guns drenched, their numbers too scanty, they awaited dawn and the arrival of reinforcements.

At eight the morning of the 27th, according to a British officer's account, "the militia began to harass us." The number of militia "increased every mile, galling us from their houses and fences – several instances of astonishing temerity marked the rebels... Seven men from one house fired on the army and persisted in defending the house till they perished in its flames." The British had marched to within five miles of their ships when they encountered Benedict Arnold at noon: "Arnold had taken post very advantageously with a body of 5,000 men, which obliged us to form ranks and lose no time in charging the rebels."

In fact, Arnold's company included only four hundred men detached from Wooster's force. Wooster and his few hundred militia had fallen on the British rear two miles outside Ridgefield, but six British field pieces had raked them

with grapeshot and they had broken and run. Wooster had fallen off his horse, mortally wounded, with a bullet in his stomach. His son fought off British attackers on foot, refusing to surrender until he was run through with a bayonet.

All night Arnold's men had been digging trenches and building breastworks across a narrow spot in the road between two high ridges, as a second line of defense. At noon, three columns of British approached, the center column charging Arnold and his three cannon. Three British charges were repulsed with heavy losses. The fighting only lasted fifteen minutes, but it was fierce. Arnold's men, outnumbered five to one, took a heavy toll, killing seventy British with a withering fire before the British managed to flank them and charge with bayonets. Arnold was the last to retreat. As he wheeled his horse, he looked up to see a British platoon charging down a ledge of rocks at him. As he turned to fire at them, the platoon fired a volley at him. Nine bullets hit his horse. Seeing their commander fall, the Americans ran, leaving Arnold pinned under his horse, all alone to face the British bayonet charge. As Arnold fell, his pistols flew out of his hands. He struggled to get his boots free of the stirrups and get his leg out from under the dead horse. For a moment, he was helpless. A redcoat soldier ran toward him with a bayonet and shouted, "Surrender! You are my prisoner." At that instant, Arnold yanked free and lunged for his pistol. "Not yet," he shouted, shooting the redcoat

dead. Then, vaulting a fence, he scrambled into a swamp in a shower of musket balls and escaped.

That night, Arnold gathered the militia on Chestnut Hill a mile from the British camp and within sight of the British fleet, in front of a bridge they had to cross. As the British pushed on toward their ships and forded the stream, Arnold attacked, aided by Colonel John Lamb and Lieutenant Colonel Eleazar Oswald's artillery. Only a reinforcement of Royal Marines from the British fleet rescued the British as the Connecticut militia, heartened by Arnold's stand, turned out by thousands until they outnumbered the British. But despite Arnold's pleas and threats, the militia refused to charge behind him and finally fled before a Royal Marine charge. Arnold was all over the battlefield, urging them to fire from stone walls flanking the British line of march, until a second horse was shot out from under him and a bullet tore through the collar of his coat during a final British bayonet charge that scattered the militia. When the fighting was over and the British rowed away to their ships, 10 percent of their force had been wounded, five times the rate of American casualties.

Sources:

<http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/770425.htm>

Benedict Arnold Patriot and Traitor
by Willard Sterne Randall,
Barnes & Noble Books, 2003

Next Meeting

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on October 8, 2011.

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 2011



MNSSAR Color Guard Appear at the Fifth Annual C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast

Wayzata, MN – On the Fourth of July Guard members James Fredrick Foster, Paul Kent Thiesen and Craig Whiting attended the C.A.R. annual pancake breakfast at the historic Wayzata Depot. The annual event features the “Flying Pancakes” where recipients stand back as their pancakes are tossed from the grill onto their plates. Over 1,200 were served. The Lake Minnetonka Children of the American Revolution originated, produce and man this annual family celebration, which fulfills their motto of, “Patriotism in Action”.

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

Minnesota Eagle Scout Honored
as NSSAR Contest Winner
2011 MNSSAR Medals and
Awards Program

Crookston Schools Receive
George Washington Portraits
Remembering Two
MNSSAR Members
American Eagle

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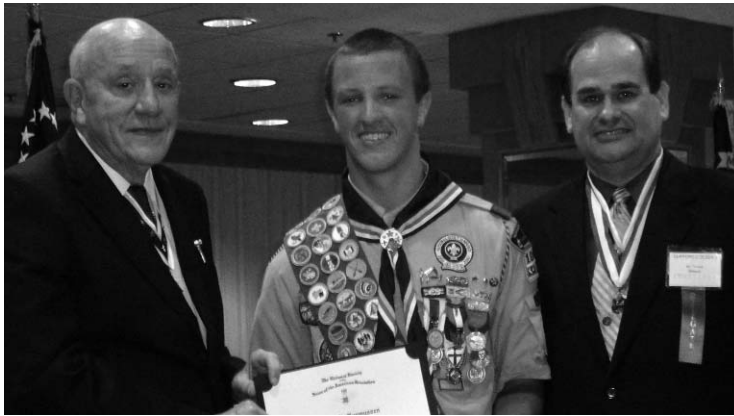
Minnesota Society
Sons of the American Revolution
2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743





MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT HONORED AS NSSAR CONTEST WINNER!

By Brett Rasmussen



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution conducted its 2011 National Youth Awards Luncheon at the 121st NSSAR Congress Monday, July 11 in Winston-Salem, N.C. Master of ceremonies T. Rex Legler II welcomed members and guests to the 13th annual luncheon and introduced Chaplain General A. Clark Wisner, who conducted the invocation. The luncheon began with a tossed green salad served with vinegarette dressing and warm dinner rolls. The meal included chicken, dressing and mixed vegetables. Apple pie rounded out the dinner.

President General J. David Sympton addressed the group and noted that, as in past years, the youth luncheon was among the best-attended events of the 2011 Congress. Sympton thanked

the SAR members who served on the youth committees, congratulated the five national honorees for their accomplishments and also recognized the youths as being among the leaders of America's next generation.

Among the national award recipients was Minnesota's Robert B. Rasmussen, who was presented the Arthur M. and Berdena King Scholarship. Clifford C. Olsen II, a member of the SAR National Eagle Scout Committee, presented Robert with the \$8,000 scholarship award. A three-time winner of Minnesota SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship competition, Robert attended the Congress with his father and will be a senior at Hutchinson High School this fall. Robert's older brother, John, was the recipient of the 2005 national Eagle Scout scholarship.

2011 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

ROTC Awards by the Minnesota Society

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

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following eleven Compatriots for doing the presentations: COL Ronald McRoberts, Hon. William Johnson, Hon. David Bouschor, LTC Dean Shepersky, Hon. Paul Theisen, Marvin Stonecipher, Truck Morrison, James Foster, Ross Matlack, Larry Sisk, 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 continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2011. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country. The Minneapolis Chapter awarded the medal in 25 area high schools and two Naval Sea Cadets squadrons. One of the 2010 schools had closed,



but many of their students transferred to a school that previously was not in the program, so that school was added.

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. This years recipients were:

- Center Frame and Wheel Alignment, Centerville
- J. Edelen Agency, Inc., Forest Lake
- Lino Lakes Farm and Garden, Lino Lakes – *photo*
- Mueller-Bies Funeral Home, Lino Lakes
- North Pine Aggregate, Inc., Forest Lake



CROOKSTON SCHOOLS RECEIVE GEORGE WASHINGTON PORTRAITS

The Crookston School Board accepted a gift from school district parent Ross Matlack and several service organizations. The gift to the school district was three portraits of George Washington that will be hung at each school in the district.

"I became aware of this program sponsored by the Mount Vernon Ladies Auxiliary that owns and operates the Mount Vernon home site through my membership in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. - A preserving our history based program very much intended that children will benefit from a visual example of the greatest leaders the country has produced." said Matlack. "The small project grew into a broad based project, with the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Disabled American Veterans, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, VFW and VFW Auxiliary and Crookston Rotary Club with some private donations and eventually we had funding for five portraits, three for the public schools and two for the parochial schools. There is so much negative in the news and we have an individual who is so committed to an idea that he had to bor-



row money to make the trip to the inaugural as he was still in debt due to the Revolutionary War and this sets an example of great leadership that being an American doesn't mean you are someone but that you believe in something. This is a portrait of our first president, first general and a true elder statesman the father of our country."

Matlack is the CEO at RiverView Health in Crookston. The service organizations were represented by Barb Boerger, Phyllis Sheridan, Jenny Amon, Loren Johnson, Christo Roberts and Margie and Walt Keller along with Matlack.

Source:

<http://www.kroxam.com>,
June 28, 2011

REMEMBERING Two MNSSAR MEMBERS

Harvey A. Andruss Jr., age 80, died in Millersburg, PA on July 14, 2011. Harvey attended Mercesburg Academy, Bloomsburg State and graduated from Yale University in 1954. In between he enlisted in the Army, 1949-1950 and was in the Army Reserve as a 1st Lt. until 1962. He started his career with commercial ceilings with Armstrong for 9 years. Then became contracting Vice President of St. Paul Linoleum and Carpet and subsidiary Armcom Distributing for a total of 28 years. He and his wife retired to Port Wing, Wisconsin and opened a gift shop in their log home. Later he moved to Millersburg, PA. He was involved with the Illuminating Engineering Society, American Society of Professional Estimators, Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of Construction Specifications Institute, MN Society of the War of 1812, Life Member of American Legion, Loyal Order of Moose and Lions Club all of Millersburg, PA. He was a former member of the Minnesota Society SAR having joined on the heritage of John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Source:

St. Paul Pioneer Press, July 31, 2011

Rev. Dr. Richard Keene Smith of Burnsville, died at the age of 88 on July 30, 2011. Father Smith served as a priest for the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota for over 50 years and was active in prison ministries for over 40 years. He was a Police Chaplain for the Minneapolis Police for over 30 years, and served as the Chaplain at Breck School and the Episcopal Church Home. Up until the week of his death, Father Smith has continued to minister to others, which included teaching Bible studies for adults and children at the Arbors at Ridges, Burnsville. Rev. Smith joined the MNSSAR to honor his Revolutionary War ancestor, Timothy Hall, as did his father nearly a century ago.

Source:

Minneapolis StarTribune,
August 1, 2011

NEXT MEETING

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 8, 2011. The speaker will be former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, A. M. "Sandy" Keith. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday May 21, 1777



TREATY OF DEWITT'S CORNER SIGNED

Treaty of Dewitt's Corner between the Cherokee Nation and South Carolina.

Charlestown, SC. – The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner was signed yesterday by a delegation of South Carolinians and the Cherokee indians. The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner ended the Cherokee War of 1776-1777.

In 1776, revolutionary South Carolina faced a threat similar to British South Carolina in 1759. But, in 1776, the English Crown threatened to mobilize the Cherokees against the new government. During the spring and summer of 1776, the Cherokees joined with northern tribes, the Shawnee, Delaware, and Mohawk, to raid frontier settlements in North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia in an effort to push settlers from their lands. The British offered guns, ammunition and cash payments for scalps and sent officers among the Cherokee. Many of the Cherokee declined this invitation and declared neutrality. However, the Chickamauga faction, led by Tsi'-yu-gunsi-ni (Dragging Canoe) did join in this war.

Virginia

Nancy Ward, the "beloved woman" of the Cherokee sent runners to the settlements in Virginia's Clinch River Valley warning of this attack. Forewarned, the settlers at Watauga

and Eaton's Station forted up and beat off the attacks of 250-700 warriors in July of 1776 (estimates widely vary on the number of Chickamauga). Many of the women and children in the Carter's Valley and Watauga settlement left and temporarily found refuge in the New River settlements.

In retaliation, militia companies from southwest Virginia and western North Carolina gathered together and attacked the Cherokee. The 1,500 Virginians were led by Colonel William Christian. They left for Cherokee lands in October of 1776, returning in December, and then attacking again in April of 1777. They destroyed homes, livestock and crops of over 30 villages, both hostile and neutral. Most of the Cherokee fled the villages before the militia arrived and put up little resistance.

South Carolina

When the British attack failed on Sullivan's Island in June 1776, the Cherokee were left on their own. The response from Carolinians was immediate and brutal. Colonel Andrew Williamson led a large force of South Carolina militia and Continental Army troops on an expedition against the Indians, destroying most of their towns east of the mountains, and then joined with the North Carolina militia to do

the same in that state and Georgia. Captured warriors were then sold into slavery.

Defeated in skirmishes and their towns in ruins, the Cherokees sought peace. Several head men visited Charlestown to negotiate. In May 1777, Colonel Andrew Williamson led a South Carolina delegation to Dewitt's Corner to settle peace terms. Georgia also sent delegates, and on May 20, 1777, all parties signed the Treaty of Dewitt's Corner.

The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner differed from previous Cherokee treaties. South Carolina dictated its terms to an enemy defeated in combat. The victorious Whigs set a boundary line between South Carolina and the Cherokee nation on the crest of Oconee Mountain and mandated that American law had precedence

over Cherokee law in dealings between the two nations. The Cherokee also lost nearly all of their land in South Carolina. South Carolina in return pledged to regulate trade and travel into the remaining Cherokee territory. At Dewitt's Corner, South Carolinians required the apprehension of any British agents operating among the Cherokee and anyone who advocated breaking the treaty.

Source:

<http://www.teachingushistory.org/lessons/treatyofdewittscorner.htm>

<http://www.newriversnotes.com/va/swift/cherokeewar.html>

Saturday June 14, 1777

AMERICA'S NEW FLAG

Philadelphia, Penn. – The Flag Act was adopted earlier today by congress: "That the flag of the thirteen United States be 13 stripes alternate red and white, that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation."



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 2011



MNSSAR CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

The chefs at Jax Cafe created a special menu using a colonial-era theme. Guests were given a choice of three menu dishes: New England Boiled Dinner of Beef Brisket, potatoes and vegetables in a rich beef sauce; Virginia Sour Apple Glazed Ham served with brown beans and braised mustard greens; Stuffed Game Hen with roasted whole potatoes and boiled carrots. Every entree included, Johnny Cake and Sally Lunn Bread; a George Washington Salad of mixed greens, artichokes and asparagus tossed with a red wine vinaigrette; and Plantation Pound Cake for Dessert.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones introduced Executive Chef Bob Foster who had prepared this special menu. He was greeted with a large round of applause.

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...
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Former Minnesota Chief Justice
Speaks at the Annual Constitution
Day Luncheon
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MNSSAR New Member Report
.....
New Junior Member Category
.....
American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





FORMER MINNESOTA CHIEF JUSTICE, HON. A. M. "SANDY" KEITH SPEAKS AT THE ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, MN – Thirty-nine members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 66. Minnesota SR President Edward Reino Lief adorned each table setting with a copy of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by George Mason, obtained at Gunston Hall in Virginia.

MNSSAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented new member certificates and rosettes to fifteen new members. Three members achieved supplemental ancestor certificates. Secretary Jones presented World War II Certificates of Appreciation to William Arthur Harris and LTC Allen Dean Shepersky.

There were eleven members that reached 25 years of continuous membership in our Society. With several now living out of state, or in outstate Minnesota, none were able to attend but the certificates and pins will be mailed to them.

It was announced that the Minnesota Society had won the Marion Brown Award at the NSSAR Congress for being the state society that sponsored the First Place Eagle Scout winner. The certificate and large Eagle Trophy were handed to Timothy Harris, our Eagle Scout program chairman. It was announced that Secretary-Treasurer Jones had won another oak leaf cluster for the Liberty Medal award. The award was created in 1986 for members proposing ten new members. An oak leaf cluster is awarded for each additional ten. This is

his eighth cluster, and we have already been advised that he will receive another one at the NSSAR Congress in July 2012.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones related the story of the creation of the Lake Minnetonka Society of the Children of the American Revolution. The spark-plug behind that very successful society is Adrienne Louise Stork Morrison. President McRoberts and Secretary-Treasurer Jones then presented the Martha Washington Medal to Mrs. Morrison. This is the highest award the SAR gives to members of the DAR.

Jones auctioned two marvelous children books on the life of the Revolutionary Soldier for the benefit of the Saint Paul Chapter. The books were the generous donation of Charles Boyles of the Saint Paul Chapter.

President McRoberts dis-

cussed a social event/visit to the Taylor grave in Winona. The consensus was to hold it in May or June 2012. He also detailed his recent talk at a DAR Chapter in the area.

SR President Edward Lief introduced our speaker, Former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, A. M. "Sandy" Keith. His interesting topic focused on the relationship of the Minnesota State Constitution to the U.S. Constitution. Keith chose for his example a controversial subject; abortion. He stated that in 1961 an abortion could only be obtained if rape or incest was involved or to save a mothers life. In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Roe vs. Wade* changed that. In 1976 the U.S. Congress voted to restrict the use of federal funds to fund abortions except in the case



World War II Veterans, William Arthur Harris and LTC Allen Dean Shepersky



Supplemental Applicant, Arthur Louis Finnel and MNSSAR Eagle Scout Chairman Tim Harris



Adrienne Louise Stork Morrison, recipient of the Martha Washington Medal flanked by Craig Whiting and Paul Kent Theisen



Minnesota SR President Edward Lief, Former Chief Justice "Sandy" Keith and MNSSAR President Ronald McRoberts



“DY” KEITH, HEON

of rape, incest or to save the mothers life. In 1980 the U.S. Supreme Court upheld this law.

In 1995 – *Doe vs. Gomez* – Chief Justice Keith and the Minnesota Supreme Court held that medical assistance and general assistance statutes that permitted use of public funds for childbirth-related medical services, but prohibited similar use of public funds for medical services related to therapeutic abortions, impermissibly infringed on a woman’s fundamental right of privacy under the Minnesota Constitution – the Minnesota Supreme Court held that the U.S. laws were unconstitutional.

Keith closed his dissertation by stating “It was either the best decision or the worst decision.”

MNSSAR NEW MEMBER REPORT

Many of the people listed were presented certificates and/or membership rosettes during the Constitution Day Luncheon:

NEW MEMBERS:	Ancestor
Dennis Sabourin Walsh.....	Soloman Stansbury
Dennis Garvin Croonquist.....	Nathaniel Condit
James Delancy Kramer, M.D.....	Abraham Cantine
David Joseph McCallum	Stephen Thompson
Brian Alan Brommel.....	Zachariah Cross
Jason Edward Witte	William D. Slye
James Frederick Mellinger, M.D.	John Jacob Mellinger
Douglas Neal Mellinger, M.D.	John Jacob Mellinger
Aaron Hale Printup.....	Joseph Printup
Steven Marlin Skytte, Jr.....	Andrew Kelly
Thomas Christopher Eaton	Isaac Mitchell
Jim Michael Reinholdson	Samuel Meader

NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS:	
Bryce Alexander Remple.....	George Douglas
William Malcolm Witte	William D. Slye

NEW MEMBER transferred from Youth Registrant:	
Sebastian James Barth	Morgan Morgan

TRANSFER IN FROM ARIZONA SOCIETY:	
Bruce Alan Aiton	Nicholas Blake

NEW SUPPLEMENTAL ANCESTORS:	
Arthur Louis Finnell	John Adam Rinehart
Stephen John Vescelus.....	Jezina Verseilous
David Adriance Foster	Michael Magie
	Matthias Porter
	Gysbert VanDenbergh
	William Witbeck

MNSSAR Members: Enroll Your Children / Grandchildren as Junior Members



Jr. Member William Witte, son of Jason Witte, at the MNSSAR Constitution Day Luncheon.

- Jr. Member Benefits:**
- Regular Member Number
 - Regular Member Certificate
 - Small Application Fee
 - Minimal National Dues – Only \$5 Annually
 - No State or Chapter Dues
 - Automatically Receive Adult Membership Benefits at Age 18

Contact John Hallberg Jones 612-721-4275 Today



David Joseph McCallum receives his membership rosette from his father, John David McCallum



New Members is Attendance – Back row left to right: Reinholdson, Croonquist, Jason Witte and his son, Jr. member William Witte, McCallum, Kramer. Front row: Walsh, Printup, Eaton

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota Society’s 123rd Annual General Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 14, 2012. Please watch for details to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday July 7, 1777



FORT TICONDEROGA FALLS

Skenesborough, New York. Yesterday the American's abandoned Fort Ticonderoga leaving it for the advancing British army.

No one knew better than General St. Clair, commander of the post, "that a retreat, with an inferior army, from before a superior one, is perhaps the most delicate and dangerous undertaking in the whole circle of military operations, and that it never will be effected without prudence, fortitude and secrecy." It had to be done, he knew, and as much as he despised the very idea of retreating, he could console himself with the thought that his motive was not to avoid a fight but to save his army.

St. Clair led his army across Lake Champlain, on the floating bridge they had constructed earlier, to their fortification on Mount Independence. At the very moment St. Clair was doing his best to organize the troops for the march to Hubbardton, the unbelievable occurred. Suddenly, without warning, flames shot up from a building on the Mount, sending sparks and long tongues of fire aloft, illuminating the scene like some gigantic torch. The shock of knowing that the enemy, alerted to the retreat, might pounce on them at any moment from the rear or the flank proved too much for the thoroughly bewildered, unorganized militiamen, who ran off the road to Hubbardton, followed by a number of equally nervous Continentals. St. Clair rode up from the rear to the front of the crowd and ordered them to halt, but the militiamen were having none of that and ignored him, press-

ing forward in the half-light that precedes the dawn. Most of those who did obey St. Clair's orders were Continentals, and he told them to form up in single file, which was the only way to negotiate the rough, narrow cart track. It was almost 4:00 a.m. on July sixth, and dawn was just breaking when the last Americans retired, having fired only a handful of shots from what had been considered an unconquerable stronghold.

A final precaution had been taken to safeguard the army's retreat. Four men, serving as a forlorn hope, remained behind. They were all that was left of the garrison, and their assignment was to man the cannon in the shore battery on Mount Independence and fire on the British while they were crossing the floating bridge and were most vulnerable, unable to respond. Then the four would disappear into the woods and make their way back to rejoin the rear guard. Only it did not come off quite as planned.

When the British crossed the bridge and cautiously approached the works on Mount Independence, alert for snipers, they came upon the battery. The four men were at their posts, all rights, linstocks lighted and ready to fire, but beside them lay an empty cask of Madeira. They were all dead drunk.

On the sixth of May, Lieutenant General John Burgoyne, handsome soldier, litterateur, and man-about-London, fresh from an English winter strode off H.M.S. *Apollo* at Quebec. His epaulets blinked furiously

in the warm sunshine that flooded the green St. Lawrence, and he was thoroughly happy for the first time since the American rebellion had begun. Ever since he had first landed in Boston two years ago, as one of the now-famous trio of Burgoyne, Clinton, and Howe, he had longed and schemed for an independent command, and at last he had achieved it. Burgoyne had been chosen to command the field force to break the American Revolution.

It's principal elements were an advance from Montreal through Lake Champlain and the Hudson River to Albany, New York; a drive by a smaller force down the Mohawk Valley from Oswego; and an advance up the Hudson by a column from Howe's army. Converging at Albany, the three would come down on the rebels—front, flank, and rear. Even if Washington, by not risking his army in an attempt to meet the offensive, should thus escape immediate destruction, the operation would wound the rebellion mortally. By occupying the line of the Hudson, the British would sever New England from the rest of the colonies; the flow of men and supplies from the heartland of the rebellion would be cut off. And then with the Hudson line established, Howe would be free to destroy Washington's army in good time wherever it might be.

After six weeks in Quebec, "Gentleman Johnny" was ready to mount his offensive. Sir Guy Carlton, Governor of Quebec, had handed him an army of over 8,300, including

600 artillerymen for a train of 138 guns, 650 Canadian and Tory auxiliaries, 400 Indians of the Six Nations, and a main force of 3,700 smartly-trained regulars and 3,000 Germans, almost all of the latter Brunswickers.

On the sparkling morning of the twentieth of June, Burgoyne's expedition set sail in a mile-long flotilla up the shimmering blue waters to Crown Point, some eight miles north of Fort Ticonderoga.

On July 2 as the British army crept closer to the vital fort, a young lieutenant of the Royal Engineers informed Burgoyne that he had reconnoitered Sugar Loaf Hill and believed that cannon could be carried up it. They would have to be drawn up with blocks and tackles wound around trees, but it could be done. For two days and nights the British cannoner's worried their guns up the steep slopes from tree to tree, while working parties at Sugar Loaf's summit quietly cleared, leveled and fortified the gun positions. On July 5 the Americans who had passed a quiet and not very exuberant Fourth awoke to find themselves under enemy guns. A plunging fire would make a rubble of their supposedly impregnable fortress, and their own guns could not reach the enemies.

Sources:

Saratoga, Turning Point of America's Revolutionary War,
by Richard M. Ketchum
Henry Holt and Company, Inc., 1997

Rebels and Redcoats, by George F.
Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin,
Da Capo Press Inc., 1957

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2012

MNSSAR 123RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



New Members and New Life-Members from left to right: Gary Printup, William DeCoursey, Bernard (Barney) Barton, William Harris, Dennis Croonquist, Brendan Tupa and Peter Lawless.

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 14, 2012. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, who led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Chaplain Vork gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

INSIDE THE
MNSSAR SALUTE...

MNSSAR 123rd Annual General Meeting Held at Jax Cafe

American Eagle

Phebe Ester Huntsinger – True Daughter of the American Revolution

Minnesota Society SAR Officers for 2012

Visit www.MinnesotaSAR.org

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 Vice President Hon. William R. Johnson, in the absence of President Rehn Smith who has recently undergone surgery.

Secretary Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 25 area high schools in 2011, and that the Minneapolis Chapter also had presentations at two squadrons of Naval Sea Cadets.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fundraising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Society.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President John Charles Sassaman. COL Ronald McRoberts made a generous donation to the Saint Paul Chapter, noting that the chapter has a much smaller treasury than the Minneapolis Chapter. He challenged others to also make a donation.

Saint Paul Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2011 and their students were presented with medals the past May.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2011, five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a

flag certificate for showing their patriotism and love of country by regularly flying the flag.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership. During 2011 we had 23 new members, three reinstatements, one transfer in and three deaths, giving a net increase of 24. As of December 31, 2011 membership stands at 156, plus five dual members. However, there are still five that owe 2012 dues, who, if not paid by January 25, 2012, will be dropped for non-payment of dues. Two of those five have already indicated that they are mailing dues this weekend.

Compatriot Jones gave an interesting report on ages and time of membership of our Society. The names of eight new members were announced, as approved between 08 October and 31 December 2011. One certificate will be mailed; the other seven have asked that the presentation be made at our next meeting so that families can be present. John Sassaman and David Foster were presented certificates for Supplemental Ancestors. In addition five new members have already been approved in early January 2012. Life Membership pins were presented to Dennis Croonquist, Brendan Tupa, and William DeCoursey. One will be

mailed to Geoffrey Bodeau, and one will be presented to William Witte at the February meeting. William Harris is a new Life Member, the result of a birthday present from his sons Thomas and Timothy.

Minnesota Society Endowment Trust Fund

Donations to Principal during 2011 were \$3,851.00. The Trustees proposed that the 2011 interest of \$600.05 be used to pay the following donation items: Duluth Public Library \$50.00; Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00; Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00; Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00; Minnesota Genealogical Journal \$26.78; Taylor Grave Pilgrimage in late Spring or early Summer 2012 \$50.00; and the balance of \$378.27 to the MNSAR Color Guard. If the pilgrimage does not happen, that amount will be added to the Color Guard Fund. The Principal as of 31 December 2011 totaled \$20,923.00.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Timothy Harris reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to over 900 new Eagle Scouts in 2011 and has received 23 entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting. Over the years Minnesota has had four national winners of the \$8,000.00 scholarship as well as second

and third place winners.

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the 13 JROTC units and the 7 ROTC units in Minnesota. Several Compatriots have assisted with the presentations over the last few years and spoke of their experiences at these ceremonies and their desire to do this service again. We note with regret the closing of the Vessey Leadership Academy and its JROTC program.

Other Business

President McRoberts reported that the Taylor Grave book project is moving along. Compatriot Swisher indicated that if the MNSAR prepared a pamphlet on the subject, to be available to the Chamber of Commerce in Winona, that he would donate the printing through the Bayport Printing House.

President McRoberts indicated that Past President Stonecipher will present details at the next meeting of a pilgrimage to the Taylor grave for late spring or early summer.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by John Hallberg Jones.

President McRoberts read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, declared the annual meeting adjourned.



PHEBE ESTER (THOMPSON) HUNTSINGER 1803 -1884

TRUE DAUGHTER OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

By John D. McCallum – Written at the request of the Minnesota Society SAR

Phebe Ester Thompson was born on November 24, 1803, in New Haven, Connecticut to Stephen and Patience Thompson. She was the fourth daughter and one of eleven children.

Her father, Stephen Thompson (1759 -1835) served for six years (1777 - 1783) as a Private in the Connecticut Line, participating in numerous battles including; Brandywine Creek, German-town, Fort Mifflin, Monmouth Court House, and Quaker Hill, He also wintered at Valley Forge, and Camp Redding. Stephen Thompson is believed to have been part of General Lafayette's advance party leading to the Siege and Battle of Yorktown, and may have been a participant in the taking of Redoubt #10. He received the Badge of Distinction for his six years of service. About 1785, Stephen Thompson married Patience, in New Haven, Connecticut.

Only a year after Phebe's birth, Stephen and Patience Thompson moved their family from New Haven, Connecticut to Onondaga, New York. Phebe would spend her childhood and early adult years in Onondaga, and the patriotism of the family would be continued, with Phebe's older brother, Adonijah Thompson serving in the

War of 1812.

On November 24, 1825, Phebe Thompson married Sylvanus Hunstinger in Camillus, New York. During the next six years, Phebe and Sylvanus would make their home in Camillus, and would see two daughters born, Emeleine and Charity, In 1831, Phebe and Sylvanus moved their family to Oswego, New York, with Sylvanus continuing his trade as a carpenter, and the couple raising their family, which would grow to eight children, with the birth of Angeline, Arthur, Elizabeth, Albert, Frances, and Camilla.

In the early 1850s, several of the older, married children of Phebe and Sylvanus Huntsinger moved from New York to the area of Berlin and Ripon, Wisconsin. In 1854, Phebe and Sylvanus moved the remainder of their family to Sacramento, Wisconsin, then a growing town, a short distance northeast of Berlin, along the south bank of the Fox River. Sylvanus continued his trade as a carpenter. Phebe enjoyed her grandchildren, and seeing her daughters married to successful businessman and farmers; Emiline & Samuel Wilson / Captain David Mapes, (founder of Ripon and Ripon College), Elizabeth and Norman Mason of Ripon, Ange-

line and Rossiter Willard, of Berlin, Charity and Cornelius Spoor of Berlin, Her sons would marry and become farmers: Albert & Susanna (Eastman) close by in Berlin Twp. and Arthur and Sarah (Hammond) in Wautoma. All would be successful and influential in their communities, and many would play a significant part of the political landscape of the area.

In the early 1860s, Phebe's children, Arthur and his family, Francis and her husband, and Camilla would move to Pine Island, Minnesota, where Camilla would marry Benjamin Franklin Swarthout. Phebe and Sylvanus would also add to their household, by caring for the father of Sylvanus. Peter Philander Huntsinger was a widower, blind, and in his late eighties.

In 1869, Peter Philander Huntsinger died at the age of 96 and in 1873, Phebe's husband, Sylvanus Huntsinger passed away. Both are buried side by side in Sacramento Cemetery. With the loss of her husband, Phebe moved to live with her youngest daughter Camilla and her husband Benjamin Swarthout in Pine Island, Minnesota.

In Pine Island, Phebe would continue to enjoy life, visiting neighbors and entertaining her grandchildren by



singing them songs, almost up to her very last day. After being ill for about twenty four hours, Phebe Ester (Thompson) Huntsinger passed away on February 23, 1884, and is buried in Pine Island Cemetery in Pine Island, Minnesota.

Note: Phebe Ester (Thompson) is the third great-grandmother of John D. McCallum.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday July 8, 1777



BRITISH CRUSH AMERICANS AT HUBBARDTON

Hubbardton, Vermont – Fort Ticonderoga, the Gibraltar of the North, the great bastion that watched over the Hudson-Champlain passage, was now firmly in the hands of General John Burgoyne. The routed American defenders were scattered to the winds, fleeing for their lives, and the British general was only a five- or six-day march from Albany and his rendezvous with Sir William Howe.

It was close to one o'clock on July 6, when the footsore American army, fleeing the British, reached Hubbardton, and General St. Claire was keenly aware of how desperately his men needed rest. They had been tramping for nearly nine hours in sweltering heat, covering more than twenty miles of rugged, tortuous terrain, and they had six more miles to go before reaching Castle Town.

For several hours St. Clair delayed at Hubbardton, hoping the rear guard would catch up, but finally, when it failed to appear, he set out with the army for Castle Town after leaving orders for Seth Warner and his 150 Green Mountain Boys to remain here until Col. Ebenezer Francis came up. Warner was to take charge of their combined units, plus Col. Nathan Hale's 2nd New Hampshire Regiment, which would turn the rear guard into a respectable fighting force.

It was four o'clock in the afternoon by the time Francis and Hale, with something over one thousand men, finally arrived at Hubbardton. Whatever his reasoning, Warner let his Green Mountain Boys hunker down in the area of the

Selleck house. Below, in the valley along Sucker Brook, which any pursuers from Mount Independence would have to cross, the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment and most of the stragglers had bivouacked. To the north and right of Warner, Francis's men took position in the woods, where they could block an enemy advance from that direction.

As the spent rebels fell into a troubled sleep that night, they had no way of knowing that a determined Scot and his crack troops lay on their arms at Lacey's camp, just three miles away.

Brigadier General Simon Fraser had gotten off to a gallingly late start, which was one of the luckiest breaks the Americans had that day. After assembling two companies of the 24th Regiment plus a detachment of the grenadier and light infantry battalions, Fraser set out in pursuit of the Americans. General Burgoyne, anticipating that Fraser might need help, ordered Major General Riedesel to lead his own regiment of Brunswickers and Breyman's company of Jagers and follow Fraser along the road to Hubbardton. The sun was up as they marched, promising another scorching day.

About 4:00 p.m. some German jagers overtook Fraser, and an hour later General Riedesel rode up, saying he had orders to support the brigadier. Riedesel stated flatly that his own troops could move no further that night; they were unused to such heat, encumbered by uniforms and

weapons unsuited to a forced march through wooded, bushy terrain, and tormented by clouds of insects, and it was a wonder they had not succumbed to heat prostration.

Fraser had his men ready to march at three o'clock on the morning of July 7. It was still dark, so their progress was slower and more arduous than what they had experienced the day before, but two hours later, as the sun was rising, they reached the end of a long climb and neared the saddle below Sargent Hill. Some Indian and Tory scouts were up ahead, reconnoitering, and suddenly shots rang out; rebel pickets had spotted them and fired before falling back toward the American camp.

In the van, Major Grant led Fraser's proud 24th Regiment, with a century of tradition behind it, followed by Major Alexander Lindsay, Earl of Balcarres, with ten companies of elite light infantry, while Major John Acland's ten companies of big, husky grenadiers brought up the rear.

The brigadier's battle plan called for Grant's redcoats to lead the attack and deliver a knockout blow. Barclarres was to angle up along Grant's left flank in case of enemy resistance proved stubborn, and the grenadiers would be held in reserve, ready to move in any direction if needed. Although it was daylight, the American camp was only now coming to life, with men cooking, eating, and packing up their gear.

At daybreak that morning, Colonel Francis enjoyed a cup of chocolate with his good

friend Captain Moses Greenleaf, and at seven o'clock, before heading to the Selleck cabin, where he met Seth Warner, he directed Greenleaf to parade the regiment and prepare to march. At seven-fifteen, Greenleaf had his companies lined up and they began moving south on the Crown Point–Castle Town road. At that moment someone yelled: a handful of redcoats could be seen emerging from the trees on the far side of Farmer Selleck's field, well within musket range, and without missing a beat, Francis's regiment faced right, swung from column into line, and headed for them on the double.

These British regulars were the leading elements of Balcarres's light companies. By the time they picked their way over and through the piles of logs and brush, neared the crest of the hill, and came in sight of the Massachusetts men, they were winded and disorganized. These fellows were chosen for their athletic ability and strength, but this steamy July day was unmitigated torture for soldiers in heavy woolen uniforms and leather caps, and the steep climb was enough to wind any man, particularly one carrying a knapsack, full cartouche box, spare ammunition, canteen, hatchet, and a musket through thick brush and fallen trees.

Francis's men had arrived here first and were lined up, waiting, muskets at the ready. Protected by the stone wall and the logs piled around it, they were within thirty or forty yards of the British, and when the opened fire it took the attackers by surprise, shatter-

ing their ragged line, sending the redcoats plunging down the hill, where their officers halted the flight.

At this point Fraser, who had run up the hill at the head of the light infantry battalion, might well have wondered if he had bitten off more than he could chew and should have waited for Riedesel to come up. With the battle barely begun, his left flank was in danger of being turned, while his advance party, the 24th Foot, with a score of men killed or wounded, had been stopped in its tracks by the stiff resistance of Warner's command, and was depending on the arrival of the Germans. Fraser decided to commit his reserves rather than lose the momentum of his initial surprise attack. He detached some of Balcarres's light troops with Acland and his grenadiers, ordering them to swing to the right to head off the Americans and prevent them from reaching the Castle Town road. He was taking an enormous risk – this maneuver seriously weakened the British left, where Fraser remained in charge – but he was counting on the Brunswickers to reinforce him before it was too late, and he dispatched a messenger to Riedesel urging him to come up at once.

By the time Warner got his Green Mountain Boys into formation, four separate rebel units were either engaged or about to go into action. Their American line of battle was in the shape of a half-moon about eight hundred yards, or nearly half a mile, long, snaking out from the west side of the road south of the Selleck house. Reading from left to right were

the regiments of Warner and Francis and most of Hale's 2nd New Hampshire, led by his second-in-command, Benjamin Titcomb. Nathan Hale himself was somewhere down near Sucker Brook with the scattered remnant of his regiment. Despite being taken completely by surprise, Hale's force, such as it was, had done its level best to delay the enemy's advance, but as a fighting unit it had all but ceased to exist, and the men, faced with overwhelming numbers, had slipped off into the woods.

On the British right, the detachment of grenadiers under Acland was heading toward a rocky precipice that commanded the road to Castle Town when Warner spotted them and sent part of his regiment to head them off.

When Warner saw grenadiers coming down the slope toward him he realized that his left flank was dangerously exposed and ordered his men, who were fighting stubbornly, to pull back to the east side of the Castle Town road and take a position behind a log fence that ran parallel to the road and then made a right-angle in the direction of Pittsford Mountain. It was a smart move: in order to attack Warner's troops at close range, where a bayonet charge would be devastating, the grenadiers would have to cross open fields under deadly American fire.

Col. Francis must have noted that the log fence would have to be the final stop – the point at which his rear guard must disengage and somehow make its way to the main army in Castle Town. After turning back the initial attack by Bal-

carres's light infantry and sending them scrambling down the hill, Francis's men regrouped and fell back to the rise, behind which they took cover, primed and loaded their weapons, and waited for the redcoats to make another assault.

Sizing up the situation on his front, the colonel could see that the left flank of the oncoming British was dangling – their line was too short – and he at once sent troops out from behind the fence to enfilade that exposed section of the redcoats' formation. By this time the battle had been raging for about an hour and twenty-five minutes. Despite fatigue and the demands of the long holding action, Francis's men began moving toward the British left flank, alerting Fraser that they were attacking, aiming to roll up his wing, and going about it pretty briskly.

At that moment, over the noise of gunfire came the surprising and unmistakable notes of a military band, bugles blaring, fifes tooting, drums beating the grenadiers' march. The Brunswickers had finally arrived. Their appearance was in the nick of time for Fraser. Out of nowhere it seemed, came Captain von Geyses's jagers in green coats, with brown leather breeches and leggings, carrying German rifles and straight hunting swords, heading directly at the Americans with fixed bayonets. The hard-pressed New Hampshire regiment, which suffered more disabling wounds than Francis's and Warner's regiments combined, gave way and ran back to the protection of the fence, but the fire from the jagers' rifles was deadly and the rebels realized

they were all but surrounded.

The British grenadiers had pushed Warner's Green Mountain Boys before them and were sweeping in on the left. For a while the rebels held out, but it was a losing game. If they were to avoid the enemy's savage bayonet charge, the Americans had to reach the only fallback position that remained to them – a hedgerow on the far side of Hubbardton Brook. It was an obstacle that would not be easy to cross, but they had to get beyond it and reach the steep slope of Pittsford Mountain. These men were desperate now; unless they made it up and over the mountain, they were trapped.

They had had the protection of walls, trees, terrain, and a fence, but now their only hope of escape was to win a footrace across eighty yards of a wheat field under intense fire. The enemy was closing fast.

Ebenezer Francis shouted to his troops not to shoot – they were hitting their own men. And that was his last command. It was followed by a volley from the enemy and Francis fell dead. It was the final crushing blow. Without the leader who had inspired them, the rebels scattered and ran for their lives, scrambling up the cliffs behind Hubbardton Brook with the frantic speed of hunted men. Except for the occasional musket shot from the woods, the battle of Hubbardton was over.

Sources:

Saratoga, Turning Point of America's Revolutionary War,
by Richard M. Ketchum
Henry Holt and Company, Inc., 1997



2012 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve another year 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.....COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Vice President.....Larry Wray Sisk
 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.....Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

James Fredrick Foster	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.
Paul Victor William E. Miller, Ph.D.	Robert Arthur Minish
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	John Charles Sassaman
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 2013John Hallberg Jones, PP
 Trustee ending January 2014Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., PP
 Trustee ending January 2015Michael Scott Swisher, PP

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Phoenix, Arizona in July 2012:

National Trustee for Minnesota ...Peter Arrott Dixon, PP
 Alternate National Trustee MN ...John Hallberg Jones, PP

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER

PresidentRehn Douglas Smith
 Vice President.....Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Secretary-TreasurerJohn Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain.....Michael Scott Swisher
 Board of ManagersThomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
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 Larry Larson Warren
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SAINT PAUL CHAPTER

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 Vice President.....Charles Edward Boyles
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 Chaplain.....The Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork
 Board of ManagersJames Fredrick Foster
 COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Larry Wray Sisk

NEXT MEETING

LTC Thomas Pelham Curtis, District Deputy President General of the Society of the War of 1812, will speak at the annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon. 2012 marks the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Jax will serve their signature Beef Tenderloin Tips entree. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you. **Learn more at www.MinnesotaSAR.org/meetings.html**.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2012



MNSAR President McRoberts and the Vice President General of the North Central District, NSSAR, Frederick Walden.

2012 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

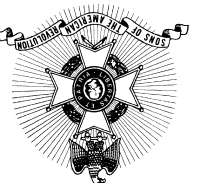
February 18, 2012 – Minneapolis, MN – 42 members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota and the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 78. Jax Café had prepared their signature Beef Tenderloin Tips meal for the group. A table favor of a pencil from Mount Vernon was provided by the SR, having been acquired by Edward R. Lief, their President, who was in Washington, DC, and unable to be present.

The MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer introduced three special guests, each of whom brought greetings: Frederick Walden (wife Janet) from Omaha, NE, the Vice President General for the North Central District NSSAR; Faye Vork, Vice President General, NSDAR; and Roberta Everling, President of the U.S. Daughters of 1812 in Minnesota.

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...
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LTC Thomas Pelham Curtis II is the Guest of Honor at the George Washington Day Luncheon
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Washington Day Luncheon Announcements
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New MNSAR Members
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Hastings Eagle Scout Honored
.....
American Eagle

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





LTC THOMAS PELHAM CURTIS SPEAKS ABOUT THE WAR OF 1812 TO COMMEMORATE THE WAR'S BICENTENNIAL

LTC Thomas Pelham Curtis II of Milwaukee, WI, who is currently the District Vice President General of the General Society of the War of 1812 presented a most enjoyable, entertaining, and learned talk on the run-up to the War of 1812.

Curtis stated that the War of 1812 has been called the Second American Revolution; the War that should not have happened; and the War of faulty communication.

Thomas Jefferson had a glorious first term as president. The temporary peace between England and France permitted American commerce to flourish between 1800 and 1803. Jefferson was able to perform the political magic of retiring the debt while also cutting taxes. In 1803 not just New Orleans, but the entire Louisiana Territory was purchased from France. Everything that had flowed together so serenely during his first term seemed to collapse in his second. The resumption of full scale war between England and France, then the imposition of naval blockades in the Atlantic and Caribbean,

threw the American economic engine into reverse.

The British navy had lots of ships but they were in need of more sailors. In 1806 Britain ignored complaints about the seizure of American ships and the impressment of American sailors. Congress passed the Non-Importation Act, banning a large number of British goods from the American market.

In 1807 the British frigate *Leopard* halted the U.S. frigate, *Chesapeake*, claiming that four sailors aboard were British deserters. When the commander of the American ship refused to surrender the men, the *Leopard* opened fire, killing three and wounding eighteen before taking the four accused deserters.

Jefferson's answer to these multiple challenges was the Embargo Act of 1807, which essentially closed American ports to all foreign trade.

Following Madison's inauguration as President the New England states want peace in order to resume trade with England. Western expansionists press for war against Great Britain, who they accuse of orchestrating Native Amer-



Larry Wray Sisk, President of the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Minnesota; COL Robert McRoberts, MNSAR President; LTC Thomas Pelham Curtis, District Vice President General Society of the War of 1812; William R. Johnson, newly elected President of the Minnesota SR.

ican attacks on American frontier settlements.

In 1812 Madison sent a message to Congress, giving four reasons for declaration of war with Great Britain: the impressment of American sailors; violation of American neutrality; the blockade of American ports; and Britain's refusal to repeal the Orders of Council, which prohibits foreign commerce in forbidden European ports. On June 16, 1812 Britain revokes the Orders in Council, but the news does not reach the U.S. Congress until after war is declared. The war, perhaps, could have been avoided.

On a similar note,

Andrew Jackson and a group of expert Tennessee and Kentucky riflemen decimated a larger force of British troops at the Battle of New Orleans, fought two weeks after the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812.

LTC Curtis was presented the Certificate of Distinguished Service from the SAR, a similar certificate from the SR, and the Minnesota 1812 group presented a CD of Arthur Finnell's newly revised book "War of 1812 Veterans buried in Minnesota – Bicentennial Edition 2012". The book is now available at Barnes and Noble in CD format or as a download for their Nook system.



Veteran's Cemetery at Camp Ripley Project



Craig Whiting, John McCallum and Paul Kent Thiesen of the Minnesota SAR Color Guard.

A project has been undertaken at the Veteran's Cemetery at Camp Ripley involving the painting of murals depicting those from Minnesota who have participated in the several wars in our history. Craig Whiting from the MNSAR Color Guard has provided the depiction of the Revolutionary War uniform for the first mural. The matter was referred to the MNSAR Board of Managers for action and possible support.

The website that describes the project is www.buonfresco.com. Click on the Veteran's Cemetery project button for additional details.

Pilgrimage to Winona

June 9, 2012



James Foster, Stoney and COL. Ronald McRoberts visited the Taylor Grave in 2009.

Join other MNSAR members and guests for an afternoon of fun. We are planning a pilgrimage to the final resting place of Stephen Taylor, the only known Revolutionary War soldier buried in Minnesota. Taylor rests in Woodlawn Cemetery along Highway 61 in Winona, Minnesota.

MNSAR Past President, Marvin Stonecipher (Stoney) is organizing the event. His plans are to include a program at the gravesite and a picnic at a nearby location. Please watch for detailed information as they become available.

Constitution Day Luncheon

October 20, 2012



The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 20, 2012. The meeting will be held jointly with the Society of the Revolution (SR) in the State of Minnesota. The speaker is yet to be determined. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

Auction Benefited the Endowment Trust Fund

Two items were auctioned for the benefit of the Endowment Trust Fund during the Washington Day Luncheon. A special postal Civil War stamp folder was the gift of Jonathan Gustafson and a marble artifact from the original monument at the grave of Mary Washington, mother of President George Washington, was the gift of Arthur Louis Finnell.

George Washington. . .

"Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism."

"When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen."

"The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations."

"Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company."

"My ardent desire is, and my aim has been, to comply strictly with all our engagements, foreign and domestic; but to keep the United States free from political connections with every other country, to see them independent of all and under the influence of none."

"Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be."

— From the Proclamation of National Thanksgiving

M I N N E S O T A
SAR Salute



NEW MNSAR MEMBERS



Thomas Sisk, Edward Burt, Robert Buie and Peter Lawless

During the Washington Day meeting, SAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones introduced new members and President McRoberts presented each with their certificate of membership and rosette: Bernard Douglas Barton, James Douglas Barton, Thomas Wray Sisk (who also accepted for two junior members, his sons Calvin Wray Sisk and Garrett Michael Sisk), Peter Aloysius Lawless, Robert Craighead Buie, and Edward John Burt. During 2011 we had 23 new members and we have already registered 7 since January 1, 2012. A special Life Membership pin was presented to William Malcolm Witte, our newest Life Member (who just turned 7 years old!)

NEW MEMBERS:	Ancestor
Bernard Douglas Barton	William Barton
James Douglas Barton	William Barton
Gary Monroe Printup	Joseph Printup
Leland Dean Swanson	Richard Jacob
Thomas Wray Sisk	Daniel Sisk
Peter Aloysius Lawless	John May
Douglas Roby Brown.....	David Sayre
Shawn Henry Wilson	Daniel Lane
Robert Craighead Buie.....	Robert Craighead
Edward John Burt	Joseph Adams

JUNIOR MEMBERS:

Enroll Your Children / Grandchildren as Junior Members



Jr. Member Will Witte proudly shows his Life Member Pin. He attended the George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon with his parents Jason and Marie Witte, and his sister, Allison.

NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS:	Ancestor
Calvin Wray Sisk	Daniel Sisk
Garrett Michael Sisk	Daniel Sisk
Gabriel John Jones	Elijah Lincoln
Joshua David Jones.....	Elijah Lincoln
Zachary James Jones.....	Elijah Lincoln

Jr. Member Benefits:

- Regular Member Number
- Regular Member Certificate
- Small Application Fee
- Minimal National Dues – Only \$5 Annually
- No State or Chapter Dues
- Automatically Receive Adult Membership Benefits at Age 18

Contact John Hallberg Jones 612-721-4275 Today



HASTINGS EAGLE SCOUT HONORED

Blake John Gerold, 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. Blake, from Hastings, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon held at Jax Cafe. His mother and father, Cynthia and Timothy, were also in

attendance. Blake read his patriotic essay entitled *What it Takes to Be a Patriot* which is presented below. Blake'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 Abram Matthew Weeks, the Utah Society candidate. The first and second runners-up were Jason E. Dreyzehner from Virginia and Matthew Samuel Waldrep from Tennessee.

What it Takes to Be a Patriot

By Black John Gerold – 2011 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

What does it take to be a patriot? To be a patriot, you must not waiver in your beliefs of why you love your country. I believe John Hancock is a great example of what it takes to be a patriot. To understand how Hancock became such a great patriot, you must look at his whole life.

When Hancock was a child, he became an orphan and was adopted by his uncle. He went to Harvard for business and impressed his uncle so much with his honesty and work ethics that when Hancock's uncle died, he left Hancock with what was regarded as one of the biggest fortunes in the new world. This put Hancock into a social group of people, who were in general, loyalist to

the crown. If he ever had talked about becoming independent from England, these people would have turned him in to be hung for treason. This did not stop him from being one of the most important people in American history.

His dislike for the British began in 1768, when one of his ships was seized for violating unfair revenue laws. People rioted in his name for they needed supplies from that ship. When he consulted with his friends on what was going on, he realized that even his employees were being taxed unfairly. So when the Boston Massacre happened, he afterwards gave a speech that condemned the British for their actions. When Hancock signed the

Declaration of Independence, he along with the other men who signed it, gave themselves the death sentence. But, they signed it because they were willing to die for a chance of freedom. According to legend, Hancock was the first man to sign the Declaration of Independence. His signature was the most famous, for it was big and in the center so King George III could read it without his spectacles. His signature made such an impression on people; they started using his name synonymously for the word "signature." To be remembered throughout history as such a great patriot would be an honor. During the Revolutionary War, he donated his time and money to the war. Even though his

financials were suffering from funding the war, he continued to donate to the poor and helped to support his fellow country men. Later on during the war, he led men into battle, risking his own life. He did a great service for his country.

Hancock was loved by all for his generosity and kindness towards others. After the war, due to how he helped win independence from England, Hancock was given the responsibility and high honor of serving as the Governor of Massachusetts. Afterwards he would die, but he left a legacy behind that we as Americans can admire. To serve our country like Hancock did, by financing, serving, or leading your countrymen, this is what it takes to be a patriot.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday July 30, 1777



AMERICAN'S OBSTRUCT THE PROGRESS OF BURGOYNE'S ARMY

Fort Edward, NY – Last Friday, July 25, an American council of officers including Generals Philip Schuyler, and John Nixon, decided that Fort Edward could not be adequately garrisoned. On July 29, three weeks from the day General John Burgoyne had landed at Skenesborough, his exhausted army reached Fort Edward. It had taken him three weeks to advance twenty-three miles, seven of which had been over uncontested water.

It's hard to figure out why Burgoyne decided to plod through the forests rather than sail down Lake George. Lake George was ten miles as the crow flew from the Hudson and about twelve miles from Fort Edward, where a waterfall interrupted river traffic, but now that Burgoyne was on the scene, consulting knowledgeable local people, he decided that the army would continue along its present path and march overland the sixteen miles to Fort Edward. Fraser's advance corps would lead the way, taking ten small field-pieces that had been brought to Skenesborough. However, provisions, baggage, ammunition, thirty-three cannon, horses, and everything else would be carried by water from Ticonderoga to the head of Lake George and then carted overland to Fort Edward.

By electing to pull his troops back from Fort Anne to Skenesborough and wait for supplies until the entire army could advance, Burgoyne presented the Americans with a magnificent gift of time, during which Generals Nixon's

and Fellows's soldiers-turned-axemen made great progress felling trees, damming streams, and dismantling bridges, in which they were aided by a providentially rainy July that flooded scores of acres and created vast new bogs. Every ten or twelve yards the men dropped enormous trees across the road in such a way that their branches formed an impenetrable tangle that had to be hacked apart, after which the weary British artificers had to construct forty bridges and rebuild others. Adding to the difficulty was the sheer size of Burgoyne's train of baggage and artillery, and the army was further encumbered with camp followers that included 297 women, plus some children, as well as officers' wives and orderlies.

Finally, after the demolition crew finished its job the men were to drive off all the cattle, leaving only milk cows for families unable to move, and bring off iron from the mills. While all this was going on, Nixon had the scouts out "at almost every point of the compass," and the news they brought back was very disturbing – the woods were alive with Indian parties, one of which surrounded Captain Lane of Alden's regiment, killed one man, and captured the captain and twenty others.

Sources:

George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1992
*Saratoga, Turning Point of America's
Revolutionary War,*
by Richard M. Ketchum
Henry Holt and Company, Inc., 1997

JANE MCCREA MURDERED BY SAVAGE INDIANS ALLIED TO THE BRITISH

Fort Edward, NY – Beautiful young Jane McCrea was planning to meet with her fiance, a soldier in "Gentleman Johnny" Burgoyne's army. Her day was full of anticipation; the glory of the summer sun shines on her radiant hair, and Jane is wearing the dress she plans to be married in later on that day. It's a glorious morning on July 27, 1777. A great day to be young, a great day to be married, a great day to die.

Jane McCrea was one of seven children born to a Presbyterian minister in New Jersey by his first wife, and after both parents died she moved to the Fort Edward area to live with her oldest brother, John, a colonel in the New York militia. She was in her early twenties and was uncommonly attractive – tall and well-formed, with reddish hair said to be so long it touched the floor. During her stay with her brother she and a local man named David Jones fell in love, but his loyalist sympathies were so strong that he went to Canada and joined Peter's American Volunteer Corps. With the approach of Burgoyne's army, Jane's brother John decided to move his family to Albany, and he urged her to accompany them, but she had hopes of meeting and marrying her fiance and elected to remain near Fort Edward with an elderly woman, a Mrs. McNeil, who was a cousin of Brigadier General Simon Fraser. There they were presumably warned by a militiaman fleeing Fort Edward that the Indians were coming.

The two women sought cover inside the log cabin and evidently were climbing through a trapdoor into the cellar when they were discovered by the war party. Both were seized and taken off as prisoners toward Fraser's camp, but somewhere along the way the women became separated, and two Indians began arguing about whose prisoner Jane McCrea was. One brave, in a fit of rage, shot and scalped her, stripped off her clothes, and mutilated her body; then her corps was rolled down an embankment and covered with leaves.

The Widow Jones was brought to Fraser's camp. She was huge and the warriors had stripped off her clothes. The embarrassed brigadier discovered that none of the women with the corps had clothing large enough to fit his cousin, so he finally draped her in his own greatcoat until something more suitable could be found.

Then Jane McCrea's captors appeared. They were trailing a scalp of long silken hair. Her raw scalp was taken to Burgoyne's camp at Fort Anne that evening, and a shocked David Jones was said to have seen and recognized Jane's hair as the Indians danced about the trophy in triumph.

The story was white-hot in the hearts of militia gathering across the border in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Sources:

<http://www.4peaks.com/fkmcree.htm>
Plus sources previously cited.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2012



Pilgrimage to Stephen Taylor Grave Site

Winona Minnesota – On June 9, 2012 ten members of the MNSAR and one guest enjoyed a pilgrimage to the final resting place of Stephen Taylor, the only Revolutionary War soldier known to be buried in Minnesota. Taylor rests in Woodlawn Cemetery along Highway 61 in Winona, Minnesota.

MNSAR Past President, Marvin Stonecipher (Stoney) organized the event. James Foster, MNSAR Color Guard member, conducted the flag ceremony. Flowers were also placed at the grave site. MNSAR President, COL Ronald McRoberts, recited a brief history about Stephen Taylor.

.....
 American Eagle

 for the MNSAR Color Guard
 Busy Independence Day Weekend

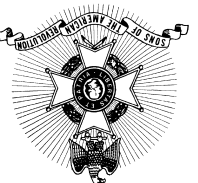
 Medals and Awards Programs
 2012 MNSAR

 Grave Site
 Pilgrimage to Stephen Taylor

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2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743





DID STEPHEN TAYLOR ACCOMPANY ETHAN ALLEN TO TICONDEROGA?

Stephen Taylor was born between 1752 and 1768. Family lore states that he was present at the capture of Fort Ticonderoga. We do know that he served in the Berkshire Massachusetts Militia for 26 days in Capt. John Strong's Company, Col. John Brown's Regiment in September 1777.

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. 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.

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 only eighty-three men from their party 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 hun-

dred 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.

Was Taylor present at the capture of Ticonderoga? He may have indeed been there but there is no proof to back up this claim. There are three possible answers to this puzzle:

- He was there.
- He marched to Fort Ticonderoga but was left on the shore of Lake Champlain because there

was only room for 83 soldiers in the boats.

- He wasn't part of this party but did serve under Col. Brown at an unsuccessful attempt to re-take Fort Ticonderoga in 1777.

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.

Following the program everyone enjoyed a picnic at a local park. Quite naturally the picnic discussion revolved around genealogy and history.

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



2012 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals at all the units in Minnesota. There are seven ROTC units in Colleges and Universities and twelve JROTC units in high schools. We noted with regret that the General Vessey Leadership Academy in Saint Paul closed in December. That unit had been in operation for several years as a charter school and was not able to continue, primarily for financial reasons.

The Minnesota Society was represented by several of our members who did the presentations: Paul K. Theisen, David S. Bouschor, Ronald E. McRoberts, Marvin E. Stonecipher, Larry W. Sisk, Ross A. Matlack, Dennis G. Croonquist, William R. Johnson, A. Dean Sheper-sky, James F. Foster, T. Truxtun Morrison, and John Hallberg Jones.

We extend our thanks and appreciation to these individuals for their service to SAR in doing these presentations.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapter Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter has one of the largest programs in the nation for this award. In 2012, we had medals presented in 24 area high schools and also in two Naval Sea Cadets Squadrons. Many of the schools consider this the highest award they present, as the qualifications are: male or female, junior or senior, based on *character, scholarship, leadership, and service*. As before the program was an outstanding success.

Medals were also awarded to eleven St. Paul area high school students this year. (One school, St. Bernards, has closed its doors.)

Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR. This years recipients were:

- Lake Drive Chiropractic Clinic, Circle Pines
- Lino Lakes Assisted Living, Lino Lakes
- P&N Sales, Circle Pines
- Pine Manor Estates, Circle Pines
- State Farm Agents: Mark A. Peterson and John Savageau, Circle Pines

2012 INDEPENDENCE DAY MNSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY



Annual July 3 Event in Nisswa, Minnesota

The MNSAR Color Guard is seven members strong. Two of them appeared at the annual event in Nisswa, Minnesota on July third. From left to right are, Paul K. Theisen (SAR), Faye Leach (DAR), Angie, granddaughter of Coralee Fox (DAR), and Craig Whiting (SAR). Angie handed out flags and booklets to the children and the SAR and DAR members talked to the adults about their organizations.

It was extremely hot so the Color Guard shed their wool coats until it was time for photos. Paul Theisen stated, "Coralee, Angie and Faye were delightful to be with again, they definitely add a colorful dimension to our display."



Sixth Annual Wayzata CAR Pancake Breakfast

On the Fourth of July Guard members Craig Whiting, Aaron Printup, Paul Theisen, Paul Brady, John McCallum and Jim Foster attended the C.A.R. annual pancake breakfast at the depot in Wayzata. Also attending were members of the 7th Pennsylvania, a re-enactment 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.

Theisen noted, "It was fun watching the people approach the flying pancakes. Everyone applauded and had a good laugh when they caught one. Some even caught two on the fly!"

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday August 7, 1777



AMERICAN'S BADLY MAULED DEFENDING FORT STANWIX

Oriskany, NY – Yesterday, an American Force led by General Nicholas Herkimer was badly mauled by an ambush prepared by Brigadier-General Barry St. Leger.

British Brigadier-General Barry St. Leger, leading a force of eighteen hundred red-coats, Hessian chasseurs and “Royal-greens,” or Tories, Indians, Canadian Axmen and auxiliaries, had sailed up the St. Lawrence and across Lake Ontario to land at Oswego on the New York shore. His army is on an advance down the Mohawk Valley to join Burgoyne in Albany. Marching southeast, they appeared off Fort Stanwix at the head of the Mohawk Valley on August 2.

St. Leger had been informed by Carleton that Stanwix was held by only sixty men and had no decent defense. But to his chagrin, the British commander found that the fort had been strongly repaired with glacis, ditches and bastions and was defended by 750 New York militia. He also unwisely paraded his regulars in front of it, thereby suggesting to the Americans that the besieging force was smaller than their own. Moreover, the commander, Peter Gansevoort, a twenty-nine-year-old colonel, was a courageous and intelligent soldier, who was determined to hold his position. In this he was supported by his second, Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willet, an experienced Continental officer. Holding at all costs was not difficult to impress upon the garrison, once the screeching of St. Leger's savage allies could be heard. On

August 4 the Indians encircled the fort and ran yelling around it, after which they retreated to the cover of the woods to deliver a steady fire that killed one man and wounded six. But there was no direct assault, and the use of the Indians in the same tactics the next day suggested to Gansevoort and Willet that St. Leger was relying on terror to subdue the fort.

Yesterday, three militiamen slipped into Stanwix carrying a message from General Nicholas Herkimer, a veteran militia officer who was at Oriskany, ten miles away, with a relief force of eight hundred men. Herkimer asked for a sortie from the fort to distract St. Leger and cover his approach. He also stipulated that if his message were indeed received, that Gansevoort was to fire a signal cannon three times. This was done, with cheers from the garrison, after which Gansevoort sent Willet sallying from the fort with a command of two hundred militia.

A half mile from Stanwix they came upon a British encampment and attacked it, killing fifteen to twenty of the enemy and putting the rest to rout. Instead of pursuing the fleeing foe and thus providing Herkimer with a more lasting distraction, they returned to camp – probably to bask in the admiration of their comrades and to show off their booty, which included four prisoners, some arms, clothing, money and Indian trinkets. Unfortunately, this foray had the effect of alerting St. Leger to Herkimer's approach.

The aging worthy had decided to wait until he could

hear the sound of battle to his front. But four of his regimental commanders insisted on an immediate advance, taunting their chief for his supposed timidity. Stung, Herkimer moved out – straight into an ambush prepared by St. Leger. He had ordered the Mohawk chief Joseph Brant with four hundred Indians, plus John Butler's Tory Rangers and John Johnson's Royal Greens, to fortify a log road, or causeway, passing through a wide ravine six miles from Stanwix. The Tories were concealed at the head of “eyes” – that is, scouts or “flankers” to the right and left, “pointmen” in advance – the mile-long column, followed by supply wagons, moved onto the causeway into a devastating fire, front, flank and rear. In the first volley most of the American officers were cut down, and the rearguard regiment fled. Herkimer received his mortal wound, but dragged himself to a tree, lighting a pipe to lean against it while calmly trying to retrieve a disaster his caution might have averted.

After the first shattering blast, the fighting was fragmented into many small groups, and because it was mainly between brothers – the Indians seldom having the stomach for shot-for-shot battle – it was savage, hand to hand and without quarter. Only a severe thunderstorm saved Herkimer's force. Under cover of it the Americans moved to higher ground to form a defensive position. Upon hearing the sound of battle in the distance – the Willet sally – they took courage and fought on furiously. They

were all but undone, however, when John Butler ordered his Tories to turn their bright green coats inside-out and pretend to be a relief force. The Tories were almost inside the Patriot lines when one of them was recognized. Another savage fight ensued, ending when Brant's Indians melted away.

Herkimer's force was badly mauled, with half its numbers dead, wounded or captive. Most of St. Leger's losses were among the Indians with from sixty to eighty of the casualties.

At a parley requested by St. Leger and granted by Gansevoort, Colonel Butler and two other officers were brought blindfolded into Gansevoort's quarters. There with the blinds removed Butler launched a rambling, convoluted speech. Willet arose to respond. At the end of his speech, the mollified Butler suggested a three-day truce. Gansevoort agreed, hoping to conserve his meager supply of ammunition.

During the lull, Willet and Major Stockwell slipped from the fort, armed with eight-foot spears and carrying a few crackers and hunks of cheese. Guiding themselves by the stars, they made for Fort Drayton fifty miles away. Upon arriving at the fort they learned, to their joy, that General Schuyler had already sent a Massachusetts brigade to the relief of Fort Stanwix.

Sources:

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2012



MNSAR CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, Minnesota – Forty-two members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was sixty-five. Jax Café had prepared their signature Walleye Pike meal for the group. MNSAR President Ronald McRoberts was elected and installed Vice President General for the North Central District during the NSSAR Congress in July. He brought remarks concerning that Congress which was held in Phoenix, Arizona, as well as from the recent Leadership meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky a few weeks ago.

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...

MNSAR Constitution Day Luncheon

Erin Hanahn Berg, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, was the Keynote Speaker at the Constitution Day Luncheon

2012 MNSAR Membership Report

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





HISTORIC PRESERVATION IS THE TOPIC OF THE DAY AT THE ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Erin Hanafin Berg, Field Representative for the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota presented a very interesting and informative program entitled: *“Historic Preservation – An Opportunity for Economic Development and Community Building.”*

Berg enhanced her presentation with a video slide-show of many buildings around Minnesota that have been or are being renovated as preservation projects.

The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota is the only state-wide, private, non-profit organization advocating for the preservation of Minnesota’s historic resources. PAM was established in 1981 by citizens concerned about the loss of irreplaceable segments of our state’s heritage: structures, neighborhoods, community fabric.

Since 1995, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota has compiled an annual list of the state’s threatened historic buildings, sites, and structures. While the endangering circumstances vary, PAM’s response remains the same – to shine a spotlight on these important places, to equip local advocates to rally for preservation, and to focus public attention on favorable outcomes that can be achieved through a preservation approach.

Two years ago the Todd County Courthouse, Long Prairie, Minnesota, was on the most endangered list. The

Todd County Historical Society asked for help for the 1883 building. The Courthouse was in great need of repair to the plumbing, electricity, windows and infrastructure. A majority of Todd County residents voted to increase their taxes to save the building. The 3.5 million dollar restoration has allowed the historic building to be the seat of County Government again.

Preservation as Redevelopment: The Graystone Hotel, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota is an excellent example of how a former downtown hotel can be reused as an affordable apartment complex. The hotel was built in 1916 and operated as a downtown hotel until 1963, after which it was converted into apartments.

The success of Graystone Hotel illustrates how disinvestment does not always take the form of complete abandonment, and that buildings that are struggling to remain economically viable are given an excellent opportunity for rehabilitation.

Preservation is More Sustainable: Historic preservation reduces the need to extract additional raw materials from the environment for the production of new building materials. Preservation also reduces building material waste in our landfills. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that construction waste accounts for 25% to 40% of solid waste going to landfills each year. Reus-



Minnesota SR President William R. Johnson, Erin Hanafin Berg, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, and MNSAR President Ronald McRoberts are flanked by Color Guard members Craig Whiting and Paul Kent Theisen.

ing a 50,000 square foot building prevents an estimated 4,000 tons of construction debris from being wasted. The cost of tear-down and rebuilding is often more expensive than renovation.

Preservation is Main Street: Over the past several decades, drastic changes in the way Americans live, work, shop and play have led to the decline of many of our country’s traditional downtowns and Main Streets. However Minnesota Main Street believes that with hard work and the right approach, they can reestablish Main Street as the heart of the community. By stimulating local business development, reinvesting in historic buildings, embracing our unique assets, and finding creative new ways to reconnect with the greater community, our traditional commercial districts are reemerging as centers of local pride.

Brainerd, Faribault, Red Wing, Willmar and New Ulm represent the initial list of Main Street projects in Minnesota. Through the Main Street Program 52 net new businesses have been established, 11 businesses have expanded and 141 net new full time jobs have been created.

Erin Hanafin Berg had an array of pamphlets and magazines on display for SAR members to take home with them. Following her presentation she was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation from the Minnesota SAR.

Source:

www.mnpreservation.org

Next Meeting

The Minnesota Society’s annual business meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, January 12, 2013. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.



2012 MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones introduced new members and President McRoberts presented each with their certificate of membership and rosette. Whole families were introduced, which includes many new Junior members. Steven Hyde, MG Lyle Doerr, Glenn Friis, Scott Friis, Timothy Friis, Kaleus Friis, Syver Friis, Noah Bagley, James Bodeau (who also accepted for his older brothers Thomas and John), and Nicholas Bradley (who accepted for his older brother Gavin). Rosettes were presented to Geoffrey Bodeau, Michael Bradley, and Gary Printup. Supplemental ancestor certificates were presented to Brendan Tupa, David Foster, and John Sassaman. Many of the new members who were present are pictured, flanked by two of the members of the Minnesota SAR Color Guard.



2012 MNSAR NEW MEMBERS in the order they were received into membership:

Name	Patriot Ancestor	NSSAR No.	MNSAR No.
Virtue Michael Whitefeather Finnell-Frank.....	Reuben Finnell.....	182633.....	2098
Justice Xavier Lawrence Finnell-Frank	Reuben Finnell.....	182634.....	2099
Tracy Stewart Kay	Thomas Mann Randolph I	182910.....	2100
Paul Thomas Owens.....	George Pointer, Sr.....	182911	2101
Steven James Hyde	Joseph Hyde.....	183280.....	2102
MG Lyle Carl Doerr.....	William Pettengell	183869.....	2103
Charles Franklin Bush II.....	Abraham Goss	184102.....	2104
Steven Jon Lokensgard	Joseph Hitchcock.....	184176.....	2105
Glenn Howard Friis.....	Thomas Crooks	184254.....	2106
Thomas Geoffrey Bodeau	William Trowbridge.....	184698.....	2107
John Geoffrey Bodeau	William Trowbridge.....	184699.....	2108
James Geoffrey Bodeau	William Trowbridge.....	184700.....	2109
Scott Andor Friis.....	Thomas Crooks	184842.....	2110
Timothy Glenn Friis.....	Thomas Crooks	184843.....	2111
Ronald Wayne Peterson	Samuel Felt	184844.....	2112
Kaleus Brendan Scott Friis	Thomas Crooks	184940.....	2113
Syver Glenn Brooke Friis	Thomas Crooks	184941	2114
Noah Glenn Bagley.....	Thomas Crooks	184942.....	2115
Gavin Michael Bradley	Joseph Bradley.....	184943.....	2116
Nicholas Alexander Bradley	Joseph Bradley.....	184944.....	2117

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS APPROVED:

Name	Patriot Ancestor	Name	Patriot Ancestor
Arthur Louis Finnell	John Tucker	Charles Edward Boyles.....	Abraham Wotring
Ronald Edward McRoberts.....	David Moulton		James Goff
Brendan Robert Tupa	Michael Happs, Sr	David Adriance Foster	Henry Bicker
	Michael Happs		Benjamin Pettingell
	Peter Van Deusen		Hezekiah Howell, Sr.
	Johannes Wiederstein		Isaac Storm
	John Kistler		Isaac Adriance
John Bradford Snell	Nathaniel Pomeroy	John Charles Sassaman.....	Francis Crum
	Jabez Holmes		

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday August 17, 1777

REMARKABLE AMERICAN VICTORY AT BENNINGTON

Bennington, Vermont – Yesterday's remarkable victory of the battle of Bennington stunned General John Burgoyne. Like General William Howe, he seemed to have forgotten Bunker Hill and had underestimated the Yankee capacity for rising to a crisis.

In July Speaker John Langdon had told the General Court of New Hampshire, "Our old friend Stark, who so nobly sustained the honor of our State at Bunker's Hill, may be safely entrusted with the conduct of our enterprise, and we will check the progress of Burgoyne."

General John Stark said he would lead the brigade. But it would be a New Hampshire Brigade only. He wanted no truck with the Congress which had snubbed him by promoting green and untried junior colonels over his head. So Stark gathered nearly fifteen hundred men and marched them toward Manchester, Vermont, twenty miles north of Bennington.

There, General Philip Schuyler, commander of northern forces, ordered Stark to join him in the south at Stillwater. Stark refused. He took his orders from the New Hampshire General Court and no one else. John Stark decided that Bennington was the place to be. He marched his men south, leaving word for Colonel Seth Warner and the Green Mountain Boys to join him at Bennington.

The British command, lead by General John Burgoyne, now in need of cattle for his hungry men, as well as horses

to replace the hundred that had perished in this sweltering green hell of a province, decided to send out a foraging expedition to the Connecticut River valley. Burgoyne dispatched 374 Brunswick dragoons, 30 Hesse-Hanau artillerymen, and approximately 500 Loyalists and Indians from the British camp at Fort Miller. Their commander, Lieutenant Colonel Friedrich Baum, was ordered to secure these badly needed supplies. The target for the raid was Bennington.

Colonel Baum's advance was so harassed by militia, who were hanging on his front like a swarm of bees, that he became uneasy and sent back to Burgoyne for reinforcements.

Lieutenant Colonel von Breymann was quickly dispatched with about 650 men and two guns. Using parade-ground formations in the woods, Breymann "hurried" to the rescue at the rate of about one mile an hour.

On August 15, a rainy day, Baum's force nearly collided with Stark's brigade, which was marching down from Bennington along Walloomsac Creek. Baum immediately took a position on high ground and dug in. The next day Stark attacked.

Colonel Friedrich Baum had erred in dispersing his men over too wide a defensive arc, where they were not in mutual supporting distance and were liable to be knocked off piecemeal. Stark ordered a complicated double envelopment of Baum's entire position while he, leading the main column, assailed them frontally. American columns under Colonels Nicholas Moses



and Samuel Herrick marched stealthily through the deep woods around both of Baum's flanks. They wore the Loyalist white paper badge in their hats. Tory Major Philip Skene, who had accompanied Baum, told him they were Tories. Baum allowed the men to get onto his flank and rear. Baum's Indians and Loyalists positioned there quickly fled.

To Stark, this was the pre-arranged signal to launch the main assault over the bridge. It was then that Stark uttered his famous battle cry: "There, my boys, are your enemies. You must beat them, or Molly Stark is a widow tonight!"

Baum's dragoons, trained to fight as dismounted infantry, ensconced behind their muddy redoubt, resisted fiercely. They kept up a hot fire upon the Americans for two hours before a lucky cannon shot ignited their supply wagon. Once their ammunition was exhausted, Baum ordered the troopers to draw sabers and charge downhill on foot. But the enraged Yankees herded them back into

the slaughter pen. Baum fell dying, and only nine of his 374 Germans escaped death or capture.

At five o'clock Breymann's column made its unexpected appearance on the battlefield and momentarily threw the victorious Americans into confusion. The Germans presented a solid front and were pressing Stark's men back when they were suddenly assailed on both flanks by Colonel Seth Warner and his Green Mountain Boys. Breymann fought well until sunset when his ammunition expired and the Germans fled in confusion back to the British camp with casualties of about 230 dead, wounded and captured. Stark lost only 30 killed and 40 wounded during both actions.

Sources:

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

Revolutionary War Almanac
by John C. Fredriksen,
Facts on File, Inc. An imprint
of Infobase Publishing, 2006

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2013

MNSAR 124TH ANNUAL MEETING



Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 12, 2013. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, who led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Minneapolis Chapter Chaplain Michael Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

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American Eagle

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Saint Paul Chapter Officers
Minneapolis Chapter and
2013 Minnesota Society,

.....

124th Annual Meeting
Minnesota Society SAR

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**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Vice President Hon. William R. Johnson, in the absence of President Rehn Smith who was absent due to health concerns.

Secretary Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 25 area high schools in 2012, and that the Minneapolis Chapter also had presentations at two squadrons of Naval Sea Cadets.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund-raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. The Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100 to the Society.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President John Charles Sassaman. Sassaman reported that eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program in 2012 and their students were presented with medals the past May. The twelfth school, St. Bernards, closed its doors the previous year.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2012, five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for showing their patriotism and love of country by regularly flying the flag.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership. During 2012 we had 33 new members, one reinstatement, four deaths, four transfer out, and one resignation, giving a net increase of 25, pending NSSAR changes. (The NSSAR is still getting final figures to the state societies.) 2012 started at 153 MNSAR members and ended at 178. In addition the MNSAR has six dual members.

Michael Swisher was presented a certificate for a memorial membership for his grandfather, Scott Swisher. Rosettes were presented to Ronald Peterson and Steven Lokensgard, as this was the first meeting they had attended. Jones reported on statistics regarding birthdates and registration dates. Since the MNSAR Annual Meeting landed on Registrar Finnell's birthday, the group sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

Minnesota Society Endowment Trust Fund

Donations to Principal during 2012 were \$2,997.00. The Trustees proposed that the 2012 interest of \$701.17 be used to pay the following donation items: MN Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of MN \$40.00, MN Genealogical

Journal \$26.78, NSSAR for CAAH \$100.00, New York Society S.R. for Fraunces Tavern Restoration \$50.00, and the balance of \$429.39 to the MNSAR Color Guard. If any of the amounts vary, adjustment will be made to the Color Guard Fund donation. The Principal as of 31 December 2012 totaled \$23,920.00.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot John Sassaman reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to nearly 400 new Eagle Scouts in 2012 and has received about a dozen entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting. Over the years Minnesota has had four national winners of the \$8,000.00 scholarship, as well as second and third place winners.

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the twelve JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota.

Other Business

President McRoberts announced the next meeting on February 23rd, citing many details. He spoke of a possible Heritage Ball with other lineage societies for a time later in the year. William Johnson will chair the

committee, with McRoberts, Swisher, Jones, and others participating. He reported that Compatriot Stonecipher will be arranging a summer social event, which may be in conjunction with a Civil War event at Cannon Falls.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones conducted an auction for a donated copy of the Centennial History of NSSAR with the proceeds going to the Saint Paul Chapter. Additionally six refrigerator magnets were sold for a total of \$60.00 for the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund. These items had been donated by President McRoberts.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by John Hallberg Jones.

President McRoberts expressed appreciation to all for the support he has received the past two years and then read the SAR Recessional. With no further business appearing, McRoberts declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.



2013 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:.....Larry Wray Sisk
 Vice President:John Charles Sassaman
 Secretary-Treasurer:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar: ..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon:Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Chaplain:The Rev. Richard Lanklyn Vork
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

Hon. David S. Bouschor, P.P.	James Fredrick Foster
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.	COL Ronald E. McRoberts
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)

Charles Edward Boyles	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	David Adrian Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	William Arthur Harris
Hon. William Raymond Johnson	Robert Edward Kahl II
Mark Allen Labine	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
John David McCallum	Robert Arthur Minish
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	LTC Allen Dean Shepersky
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	Aaron Hale Printup
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen John Vescelus

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2014:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2015:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2016:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Kansas City, MO, in July 2013

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon, P.P.
 Alternate National Trustee MN: ...Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D., P.P.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:.....Hon. William Raymond Johnson
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NEXT MEETING

Dr. Stephen Keillor will be our Keynote Speaker at the Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting on February 23, 2013 at Jax Cafe.

Dr. Stephen Keillor, Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, Bethel University – Civil War Specialist – will speak about the First Minnesota Volunteers and the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday August 23, 1777

DISASTEROUS RESULTS AT THE BATTLE OF STATEN ISLAND

Hanover, New Jersey – Yesterday Major General John Sullivan conducted a raid against British forces on Staten Island. Sullivan's raid was well-executed, but it suffered from a shortage of boats to effect the crossing and one of its detachments was misled by its guide to the front of the enemy position rather than its rear. As a result, Sullivan did not take as many prisoners as expected, and had about 200 of his own men taken prisoner due in part to the lack of boats.

On July 23, 1777, following months of preparation and some preliminary maneuvers in New Jersey, British General Sir William Howe and his brother, Admiral Richard Howe, launched a fleet carrying most of the New York-based army south.

General Washington was notified promptly of the fleet's departure. He learned on August 10 that the fleet appeared to be moving south of Philadelphia, possibly heading for Charleston, South Carolina. As a result, he prepared to move north to assist General Horatio Gates defend the Hudson River against Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's march south from Quebec. On August 21 he was alerted that the fleet had been spotted one week earlier at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. Realizing the danger to Philadelphia, he immediately issued orders to move the entire army south with all speed. His orders to Major General John Sullivan, who commanded the front line defenses in eastern New Jersey, were to rejoin the main army "with all convenient speed".

Sullivan, in the meantime, had learned that the departure

of Howe's army had left Staten Island vulnerable, and planned and put into execution a raid against British targets there. His plan was to cross two groups onto the island from points in Elizabethtown, capture prisoners from the isolated militia outposts, and destroy supplies. They would then go to the Old Blazing Star Ferry to return to the mainland.

British defenses on the island, under the overall command of Brigadier General John Campbell, consisted of the regular army elements from the 52nd Foot, regiments of "Hessians" from the German states of Waldeck and Ansbach, and the Loyalist New Jersey militia known as Skinner's Brigade under the command of Cortlandt Skinner. Campbell's men numbered about 900, and were stationed near the northeastern tip of the island. Skinner's men, numbering about 400 were stationed at outposts along the western shore between Dexter's Ferry and Ward's Point.

General Sullivan, at his base in Hanover, New Jersey, ordered his commanders on August 20 to prepare their troops for a march the next day. On the afternoon of August 21 two columns numbering about 1,000 in all left the camp. One column was led by Brigadier General William Smallwood, and the other, headed by Sullivan, consisted of troops led by a French officer who had been given a Continental Army brigadier's commission, the Chevalier Philippe Hubert Preudhomme de Borre. After reaching Elizabethtown late that evening, they rested for a few hours, and began crossing early the next morning. One detachment, led by Colonel Matthias

Ogden, crossed opposite Fresh Kills and rowed partway up the kill, in order to approach their target, the militia brigade of Elisha Lawrence, from its rear. The remaining troops crossed near Palmer's run on the north side of the island, where they split into three groups. Smallwood and Sullivan led most of their columns away to attack specific targets, each leaving a regiment behind to cover their line of retreat.

Ogden attacked Lawrence's outpost at dawn, surprising and routing the militia company. After a few minutes of battle he had taken 80 prisoners, and he moved on to the outpost of Lieutenant Colonel Edward Vaughan Dongan, commanding the 3rd battalion of Skinner's Brigade. Dongan's men put up stiff resistance, even though he was felled with a mortal wound. This prompted Ogden to retreat toward the Old Blazing Star. After waiting there as long as he thought prudent, Ogden crossed his men back to the mainland before Sullivan and Smallwood arrived.

Sullivan moved to attack Skinner's 5th battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Barton, at the New Blazing Star Ferry, but these troops were alert, and fled when Sullivan's forces advanced on them. Although Sullivan had placed troops to intercept men who tried to get away, many of Barton's men escaped, crossing over to the Jersey shore or hiding in the woods and swamps of the area. Sullivan took 40 prisoners, including Barton. Some of his men advanced on Skinner's headquarters, but the force there was too strong, and the Americans retreated.

General Smallwood's column was led by its guide to the front of the Loyalist battalion of Abraham van Buskirk, instead of its rear. He ordered the attack anyway, and Buskirk's men fled until they were rallied by General Skinner, and the tables were then turned on the Americans. They beat a hasty retreat, although they had time to destroy camp supplies and equipment, and managed to seize a battle standard.

Smallwood and Sullivan joined forces near Richmond, a village in the center of the island, and made their way to the Old Blazing Star. Sullivan sent for the boats to speed the crossing, but they never arrived, so he began crossing the troops and prisoners using the three boats that Ogden had commandeered to cross earlier. As they did this, Skinner and his company approached, accompanied by the forces of Campbell, the 52nd, and the Waldeck and Ansbach regiments. Sullivan ordered the companies of Majors Stewart and Tillard to cover the retreat. Numbering roughly 80 men, they successfully held off the accumulated British forces until all other American troops had crossed to the mainland, repulsing several determined attempts to break through their line. Although some of this covering line managed to escape, a number of men were killed, and a sizable number surrendered after they ran out of ammunition and the British began firing grape shot at them.

The British loss was 5 killed, 7 wounded and 84 missing. The British took 259 prisoners in the engagement. Twenty-one of the American prisoners were officers, one of whom was wounded.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2013



Keynote Speaker Steven J. Keillor, Ph.D., and Vice President of the Minnesota S.R. Ronald McRoberts.

2013 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

February 23, 2013 – Minneapolis, MN – 45 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 82 – the largest MNSAR crowd in decades.

John Hallberg Jones, MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer, introduced members of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, who were invited to hear the program of special interest to their group.

Jax Cafe prepared a tasty chicken picatta served with capers and green beans. A mushroom ravioli was the vegetarian alternative. The assemblage enjoyed vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce for dessert.

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American Eagle

.....

Roseville Eagle Scout Honored

.....

Revolutionary Heroes?
Civil War Heroes Inspired by
"First Minnesota Regiment:
Dr. Steven Keillor,

.....

Observance and Luncheon
Annual George Washington

.....

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

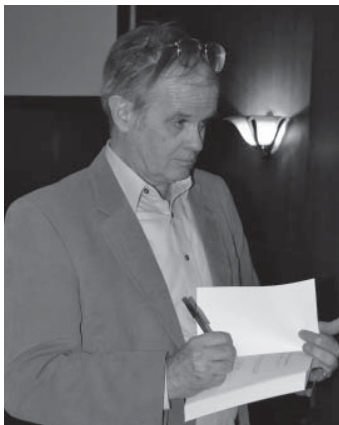
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





DR. STEVEN KEILLOR SPEAKS ABOUT THE FIRST MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER REGIMENT



Steven J. Keillor, Ph.D., is currently Adjunct Assistant Professor of History at Bethel University College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Keillor gave an outstanding presentation entitled, "First Minnesota Regiment: Civil War Heroes Inspired by Revolutionary Heroes."

Keillor noted that both the Union and Confederate soldiers saw an affinity with the American Revolution. The Union soldier saw themselves as defenders of the government that the Revolution created and the Confederate soldiers were rebelling against their mother country, just as the Revolutionary War soldiers did.

When the Civil War broke out Minnesota was a young frontier state of only three years. Governor Ramsey was the first Governor to offer a Volunteer Regiment for the Union. There were no railroads in Minnesota yet so the First Minnesota, mostly clad in lumberjack outfits, took a Mississippi steamer to LaCrosse, Wisconsin where

they boarded a train bound for Washington D.C.

Keillor sited many stories of James Wright. James A. Wright was an orderly sergeant in Company F of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment. As the First Minnesota approached the Potomac region of Virginia and Mount Vernon, thoughts of George Washington crept into James Wright's mind:

"Swinging to the tide on the Potomac in sight of Fort Washington and with Mount Vernon and Washington's tomb not far away, we naturally thought and talked of the Father of His Country, and wondered what view he would take of the then condition of affairs. The bare idea that he could have endorsed the course that Virginia had taken seemed revolting, but someone asserted that he 'had been a rebel once' and the he 'might, if alive, do it again.' This, of course, brought on an argument, and there were a variety of opinions, which, as usual, settled nothing."

Later, the Confederates fled Yorktown after a Union siege, an almost exact parallel of the Revolutionary War. Wright relates:

"It was a dreary, cheerless, miserable existence for men and mules in front of Yorktown – made so to a great degree by the adverse weather conditions. We felt that we could fully sympathize with our Revolutionary ancestors and the French allies in their investment of the

same place eighty-odd years before. It was encouraging and sustaining to feel during the discomforts and dangers of the siege that Washington and other illustrious men had been there before us."

Again, at the Battle of Fredericksburg, just across the Rappahannock River from Ferry Farm, where George Washington grew up, Wright recounts:

"At the first of these disturbances, I found shelter behind a small enclosure of brickwork three or four feet high, and I think that it was Charley Berdan that was with me. We fired several times from behind this, and a number of bullets struck it. We did not know at the time that the protecting shelter marked the resting place of Mary Washington. And if we had, I have no doubt but we would have crouched down there just the same. It might have seemed a little lacking in respect for the dead to be 'scrapping' with the descendants of her old neighbors over her grave, but, if she had been conscious that we were trying to preserve what her son had fought to establish, I doubt not that she would have willingly offered the protection we found there."

Afterwards Keillor autographed copies of his book, "No More Gallant a Deed – A Civil War Memoir of the First Minnesota Volunteers." A collection of writings of James A. Wright Edited by Steven J. Keillor.

Washington Day Luncheon Highlights



New members, Ian Halker, Kevin Hatle, Leonard Leier, Matthew Hatle and Andrew Hatle were presented with certificates and rosettes. Another new member, Larry Johnson is not pictured.



Tom Harris, John Hallberg Jones and Tim Harris were given 25-Year, 50-Year and 25-Year member pins and certificates respectively.

On behalf of the National Society, Thomas Truxtun "Truck" Morrison was presented the Liberty Medal and certificate for being a top-line signer on ten or more SAR applications.



MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT IS RUNNER-UP IN NATIONAL COMPETITION



Micah David Mueller of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, represented the MNSAR in the national competition of the Eagle Scout and Awards Program. The national winners are:

- First Place – \$8,000 – David Garrison Hager, Florida
- Second Place – \$4,000 – Micah David Mueller, Minnesota
- Third Place – \$2,000 – Chandler Joseph Burke, Texas

Congratulations Micah!

Micah, from Roseville, Minnesota was honored at the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe. His mother and brother were also in attendance. Micah read his patriotic essay about Benjamin Franklin which is presented in this newsletter.

Micah'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 \$4,000 scholarship.

Patriotic Essay, by Micah David Mueller – 2012 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

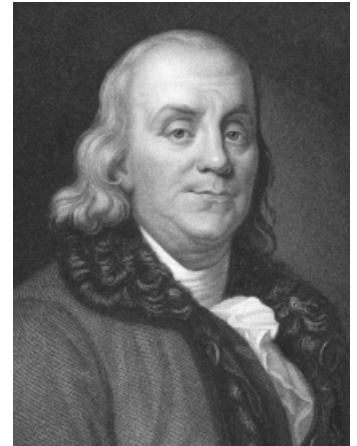
If I could spend an afternoon with any historic or public figure, I would chose Benjamin Franklin. Doctor Franklin lived from 1706 to 1790 in Boston, Philadelphia, London and Paris. I chose Benjamin Franklin as he was one of the most brilliant, talented and accomplished Americans of all time. Additionally, Franklin's fame as a signer of the Declaration of Independence and an American Revolutionary patriot as well as his work in the realms of science, writing, publishing, government and diplomacy, makes him an easy choice. Dr. Franklin was admired and trusted by common men as well as the rich, the educated and the European Royalties.

Benjamin Franklin's work influenced American life during his time and continues to impact our life today. As a scientist, Franklin discovered positive and negative charged electrical currents, serving as the foundation for electricity. As an American politician and humanitarian, he developed the first public libraries, fire departments, universities and the U.S. Post Office. Franklin's patriotic efforts are highlighted by his appointments as the American Ambassador to France during the Revolutionary war. Franklin convinced France to provide financial and military aid to General George Washington. His diplomatic skills with France were key in America's victory over England. In addition, during final

peace negotiations, Franklin obtained the territory from the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River from Great Britain, without firing a shot. This additional victory demonstrated the power of Franklin's words over weapons.

Benjamin Franklin was an analytical as well as a humorous writer. His writing skills dissected and created new ideas, while at the same time entertaining, provoking, educating and changing perceptions. While shying from public speaking, writing was his voice. Franklin's prolific writing efforts created the frameworks for the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution. Franklin also educated and entertained the common man, writing the *Pennsylvania Gazette* and *Poor Richard's Almanac*. Even in his earliest writings, Franklin challenged Colonial Americans to reflect on their perceptions of women, through stories under his pen name *Silence Dogood*. These widely read and discussed stories demonstrated women's intelligence and wit to be equal to men. Later in life, only 26 days before his death, Franklin protested slavery through his pen name *Historicus*. Writing a satirical defense of slavery, he exposed the fallacy of any supportive arguments.

Franklin's spirit of civic virtue propelled American citizens towards a sense of common pride. For example, Franklin



created a small business loan program for young tradesmen designed to last for 20 years. When his loan program concluded, Franklin directed the remaining funds to be distributed for civic use. Dr. Franklin had a remarkable talent for seeing unmet public needs and developing methods to fulfill them.

Franklin is considered by many to be the original American, or even the founding grandfather of our nation. Conversing with the original American, an afternoon would soar by. And most importantly, Franklin, the quintessential everyman, would make me a better American for the rest of my life.

Next Meeting

The Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on October 5, 2013.

Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday August 25, 1777

ARNOLD'S RUSE SAVES THE MOHAWK VALLEY

Fort Stanwix, New York – Yesterday, a delighted General Benedict Arnold arrived at Fort Stanwix to discover his ruse had succeeded beyond his wildest hopes. He was all for pursuing and destroying Brigadier-General Barry St. Leger's army, until heavy rains made it impossible to do so. Still, by his wit this time, rather than by his valor, he had not only saved the Mohawk Valley but had destroyed the western end of Lord Germain's pincers.

Near Saratoga, Lieutenant General John Burgoyne, still receiving no word from General Howe, was experiencing every kind of shortage. Without reinforcements, without Indians, without enough food for his horses or men Burgoyne now faced the swarming Americans with scarcely five thousand men.

During July Congress directed Benedict Arnold to report to General Washington. He did, and was sent hurrying north to join General Philip Schuyler, (who, just last week, had been succeeded by General Horatio Gates as commander of northern forces).

Setting out on August 13, Arnold made his primary destination the settlement of German Flats, some seventy houses clustered around a pair of stockades which were teeming with settlers who had fled to them with their horses and cattle at the first rumor of St. Leger's attack.

A well-disciplined force of Indians was making a critical

difference to St. Leger's army at Oriskany. As Burgoyne inched south, New York troops were desperately holding out inside the run-down old star-shaped redoubt at Fort Stanwix while the British and the Loyalists slowly gathered strength. The rout of Herkimer's reinforcements left only the old wood fort between St. Leger and a complete sweep of the Mohawk Valley to the outskirts of Albany. St. Leger was clearly moving in to finish his siege, his zigzag and parallel trenches bringing him close to the fort's rickety walls.

At the settlement of German Flats Arnold realized that he could not hope to conquer St. Leger with frightened militia. He also realized that the enemy commander's Achilles' heel was his Mohawk Indians. From his long and varied experience with redmen, Arnold was aware that they were credulous and extremely superstitious. They also revered a demented or disturbed person as being under the protection of the Great Spirit. Thus he thought that the half-wit Tory named Hon-Yost Schuyler, whom he had arrested and condemned to death as a Loyalist plotter, might be a useful means of causing Chief Brant's Mohawks to desert. When Hon-Yost's mother and brother Nicholas came to him to plead for his life, Arnold replied that he would spare him if he agreed to go to St. Leger to spread the story that "Dark Eagle" – as the Abenakis called this dark-skinned white chief – was approaching Stanwix at

the head of a huge army. Both the mother and brother agreed, but to ensure Hon-Yost's faithful execution of the scheme, Arnold held the brother hostage. Then he removed Hon-Yost's coat to riddle it with bullet holes to support his story of a wild escape. After Hon-Yost departed, unknown to his relatives, Arnold sent a trusted Oneida to follow him to make sure he went to Chief Brant's camp and to corroborate his story.

Wild-eyed and babbling, his coat in tatters, Hon-Yost appeared among the Mohawks like an apparition. They surrounded him with leveled muskets, listening wide-eyed as he blurted out his story. Asked how many men followed Dark Eagle, he pointed dramatically to the leaves on the trees above him. Brant took Hon-Yost to St. Leger, where he reported that Arnold had two thousand men and was only a day's march away. This last news shocked the Mohawks, who had been complaining of a lengthy siege, productive of little loot and fewer scalps. When the Oneida scout told his friends among them that Dark Eagle sought to punish only the British, not their Indian allies, they began to think of desertion.

St. Leger questioned the Oneida, who not only confirmed Hon-Yost's story but further exaggerated Arnold's strength. Shaken, on August 22 the British commander tried to persuade his departing Indian's to stay one more day to attack the fort. They refused, pausing



only long enough to plunder St. Leger's supplies and steal his officer's liquor and clothing. St. Leger was compelled to raise the siege, not only by the defection of Brant's braves but by the panicky departure of his own troops, who fled into the woods, leaving behind all their tents, cannon and other equipment. After them came the whooping, laughing Indians, shouting, "Dark Eagle! Dark Eagle!" St. Leger's men did not stop until they had reached Fort Oswego on the shores of Lake Ontario. Those of them who tarried were murdered and scalped by drunken Mohawks, who later staggered into the fort with British scalps hanging from their belts.

Sources:

Benedict Arnold, Patriot and Traitor
by Willard Sterne Randall,
Barnes and Noble Books, 1990

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

Revolutionary War Almanac
by John C. Fredriksen,
Facts on File, Inc. An imprint
of Infobase Publishing, 2006

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2013

ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON



Forty eight members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 58. Jax Café had prepared their marvelous Broiled Atlantic Salmon, with a Mushroom Ravioli as the vegetarian alternative. Key Lime Pie topped off the meal.

MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones introduced new members presenting each with their certificate of membership and rosette. Our

active membership now stands at 201, the highest in about 50 years. Compatriot Jones noted that the Minnesota Society had won the Ohio Society Award for enrolling the largest percentage of new members under 30 years of age. The MNSAR also won the Genealogist General's Award for having the lowest percentage of new member applications pending during the year. Arthur Louis Finnell and John Hallberg Jones each received another oak leaf cluster for their Liberty Medals, awarded for being the top line signer on ten new member applications.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

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**“The Last Full Measure: The
First Minnesota at Gettysburg?”
by COL Ronald McRoberts**

.....

**2013 MNSAR Medals and
Awards Programs**

.....

**MNSAR Membership Changes
Since Last Year**

.....

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





“THE LAST FULL MEASURE: THE FIRST MINNESOTA AT GETTYSBURG”

COL Ronald McRoberts presented the keynote address during the Constitution Day Luncheon. COL Ronald McRoberts, Ph.D. is a past president of the MNSAR and is currently the Vice President General of the North Central District NSSAR.

McRoberts address included a detailed slide presentation with photos of the principal players, maps and statistics of the history of the First Minnesota and the Battle of Gettysburg. The battle took place 150 years ago in July 1863.

Minnesota Territorial Governor, Alexander Ramsey, happened to be in Washington D.C. at the onset of the Civil War. He immediately went to the War Department and volunteered one thousand men to the Union cause. Minnesota was the newest State of the Union and the first to volunteer troops.

The First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment mustered for a three-year term when the prevailing enlistment period was three months. During the First Battle of Bull Run (July 1861) the First Minnesota sustained 20% casualties and 28% more during the Battle of Antietam (September 1862). The First Minnesota is most noted for its service on the second day of the three day battle of Gettysburg.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee intended to shift the focus of the summer campaign from war-ravaged northern Virginia and hoped to influence Northern politicians to give up their prosecution of the war and sue for peace.

Just three days before the battle, Major General Joseph Hooker was relieved from command of the Army of the Potomac and replaced by Major General George Meade.

McRoberts stated that Brigadier General John Buford of the Union Calvary saved the Union cause when, at the tower atop Luther Seminary, he noticed clouds of dust indicating where the Army of Northern Virginia was headed. Buford put his force blocking Lee's army and sent a messenger to alert General Reynold's Infantry. Buford was soon reinforced with two corps of Union infantry. Confederate forces converged on the town from the west and north, driving Union defenders back through the streets of town to Cemetery Hill.

The men of the First Minnesota are most remembered for their actions on July 2, 1863.

“...Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, commander of the II Corps, galloped off to the right, where he soon came upon a large body of Confederate infantry advancing unopposed toward the undefended crest of Cemetery Ridge. The general at first thought these were Union troops retreating from the advanced front, but a volley of shots which wounded his aide, Captain W.D.W. Miller, soon revealed the truth. He then spied a Federal Regiment of about three hundred men coming up from the rear. Spurring over to them, Hancock shouted to their colonel, ‘Do you see those colors? Take them.’ It was clearly a suicidal mission, but Colonel William Colville and his First

Minnesota hesitated not a moment. Charging at top speed with bayonets leveled they tore into the enemy force, the brigade of Cadmus Wilcox of A. P. Hill's corps, and brought it to a halt. They took fearful losses – well over two-thirds of their number – but they did their job. They stopped cold a rebel advance which threatened to break the Union line in two, and they gave Hancock the time he needed to gather reinforcements in this area. The charge of the First Minnesota at Gettysburg has become one of the most famous of the whole war.”

The 83.1 percent casualty rate stands to this day as the largest loss by any surviving military unit in U.S. history during a single day's engagement. The unit's flag is now in the Minnesota Capitol's rotunda.

During the morning of July 3, the Confederate infantry were driven from their last toe-hold on Culp's Hill. In the afternoon, after a preliminary artillery bombardment, Lee attacked the Union center on Cemetery Ridge. The Pickett-Pettigrew assault (more popularly known as Pickett's Charge) momentarily pierced the Union line but was driven back with severe casualties.

Rebounding from the horrendous casualties of the previous day, the 47 survivors of the First Minnesota were reinforced by detached Company F, and the reunited regiment was moved slightly northward on Cemetery Ridge. Destiny placed the remaining Minnesotans at one of the



few places where Union lines were breached during Pickett's Charge and required them to charge advancing Confederate troops once again. During the desperate and chaotic fighting, Private Marshall Sherman of Company C captured the colors of the 28th Virginia Infantry and received the Medal of Honor for his achievement.

“No soldier, on any field, in this or any other country, ever displayed grander heroism,” Hancock later said of the First Minnesota.

Sources:

David M. Jordan, Winfield Scott Hancock: A Soldier's Life
Bloomington Indiana University Press, 1988.

<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/gettysburg/maps/picketts-charge.html>

Next Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting of the MNSAR will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, January 11, 2014. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.



2013 MNSAR 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. This years recipients were:

- Inter Sports, Saint Paul
- Magnolia's Restaurant, Saint Paul
- Molin Concrete Products Company, Lino Lakes
- Northern Wholesale Supply Inc., Lino Lakes
- Otter Lake RV Center, Hugo



Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. There are 7 college units and 12 high school units.

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following Compatriots for doing the presentations: Hon. David Bouschor, Dennis G. Croonquist, Hon. William Johnson, John Hallberg Jones, Truck Morrison, LTC Dean Shepersky, Larry W. Sisk, Marvin Stonecipher, and Hon. Paul Theisen.

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.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapter Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2013. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country.

In 2013 the Minneapolis Chapter awarded the medal in 24 area high schools and one Naval Sea Cadets squadron. A second Naval Sea Cadet Squadron is expected to present the medal this fall.

Medals were also awarded to eleven St. Paul area high school students by the Saint Paul Chapter this year.

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

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Changes Since Autumn 2012

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Scott Neil Swisher (Memorial).....	David Minear
Kevin Bradford Hatle	Prince Soper
Andrew Dorsey Hatle	Prince Soper
Matthew Dorsey Hatle.....	Prince Soper
Leonard Arthur Leier, Jr.	Aaron Stoddard
Larry Dale Johnson.....	Abraham Reece
David Robert Brown.....	David Sayre
James Carroll Andrews.....	Joseph Knight
Patrick Carroll Andrews	Joseph Knight
Brendan James Andrews.....	Joseph Knight
Ian Zachary Halker	Jonas Barrett
Cecil Clair Roby (Memorial).....	David Sayre
John Patrick Kvistberg.....	Adam Good
Matthew Magnus Kvistberg	Adam Good
Curtis Joseph Walor.....	John Rhone
Marvin Lane Jansma.....	Cornelius Bassett
Christopher Willard Moberg.....	Samuel Selden
Samuel Benjamin Moberg	Samuel Selden
Joseph Daniel Becker	Adam Good
Keith Sheldon Hansen	Joseph Kinne, Jr.
Jere Gene Mackin	Peter Barnes
Robert Anthony Heberle.....	Christian Ober
Reid Winsor Petit.....	Abraham Winsor
Ronald Alan Erickson.....	Abel Owen
Donald Dean Litchfield	William Trowbridge
Michael Alan Wedell	Matthew Rippey
Randall George Smith	Zachariah Barber
Charles Arthur Tyler	Daniel Wardwell
Frank Donald Stachour.....	Johnny Scott
Alan Bruce Humrickhouse	John Briner

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS APPROVED:

Brian Alan Brommel.....	William R. Haynes
Brian Alan Brommel.....	William W. Haynes
Dennis Garvin Croonquist.....	James Ackerman
Arthur Louis Finnell	William Duke
Wallace William Frelander	Andrew Kincaid
Marvin Lane Jansma.....	Robert Dunlap
Stephen John Vescelus.....	Joseph W. Corpe
Stephen John Vescelus.....	John Sechler
Stephen John Vescelus.....	John Manning
Curtis John Walor	Johann Dormeyer, Jr.
Curtis John Walor	Jacob Hinds

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday September 2, 1777

FORT HENRY HOLDS AGAINST INDIAN ATTACK

Wheeling, Virginia – For the past two days Fort Henry was under attack. The failure of the first day's assault, with the reinforcements and the general alarm that was spreading throughout the country, caused the enemy to raise the siege. Except those slain on the bottoms, the defenders of the fort escaped with only one man wounded. But the cabins of the settlers were destroyed, the stock wantonly butchered, and every ravage known to savage warfare inflicted upon the settlement. The fort alone remains, and the settlers round about it have to begin all over again in the building of homes and the acquirement of the means of subsistence.

The fort at Wheeling, first named Fort Fincastle for one of Lord Dunmore's titles, was renamed Fort Henry in honor of Gov. Patrick Henry. The fort is in the shape of a parallelogram, with wooden towers or bastions at each corner, which projects over the lower story and which are pierced by port holes for the use of rifles and muskets. In case of attack the fighting was carried on almost entirely from these bastions. Between these bastions is stretched a strong and closely-connected line of oak and hickory pickets, surrounding entire enclosure, within which are located a magazine powder, barracks and cabins for sheltering those who sought refuge within the stockade. On the roof of the barracks is mounted a swivel gun captured during the French and Indian War by the British. The main entrance is on the east side, which is closed by a strong wooden gate.

In August, 1777, General Hand, of Fort Pitt, learned from spies that the Indians were collecting in large numbers for an attack on some part of the country. He believed that Wheeling would be the point assailed. Therefore, all settlers between Fort Pitt and Point Pleasant were warned of the danger.

On the evening of August 31st, Captain Ogle's scouting party came in from the Beech Bottom fort, and reported the appearance of smoke to the south, which was conjectured as rising from the Grave creek block-house. This was presumably the only thing in nature of warning against the approach of the Indians. Early the next morning a white man and a negro were dispatched to bring in some horses from the bottoms near the creek. The greater part of this bottom was in a field of corn, but a road led down from the settlement towards the mouth of the creek. While passing along this road the two men encountered six Indians, who fired and killed the white man, but apparently allowed the negro to run back toward the fort. Captain Meason at once hurried down the road to the point where the encounter had taken place. Suddenly, from the corn field, arose a large party of savages, some 400 Indians of the Shawnee, Wyandot and Mingo tribes, supplied with arms and ammunition by the English. They completely surrounded the white men. The latter made a gallant resistance and endeavored to retreat. Nearly all were shot down or overpowered, except Captain Meason, who, though wounded, escaped and finally got into the fort. During the struggle in the

corn field, Captain Ogle, with twelve of his scouts, set out to the relief of their comrades, but were likewise ambushed. Ogle made his escape, and two of the soldiers succeeded in getting away, but the total results of this bloody battle on the ground now covered by Wheeling's mercantile and wholesale center was twenty-four killed, wounded or captured. The leader of the war party was thought to be Simon Girty himself. Girty, an American colonial of Scots-Irish ancestry serves as a liaison between the British and their Native American allies.

Encouraged by success the Indians moved forward for an attack. Their first act was to demand surrender, through a "white man" stationed in a window of one of the abandoned cabins. He offered protection to those who surrendered, emphasizing that he spoke for Governor Hamilton, of Detroit, representative of the British army. The reply to the demand for surrender was answered by a shot at the announcer from a port hole, of the fort. Immediately there was a rush at the gate by the Indians, and repeated attempts to break down the wall by the use of battering rams. Failing in this they attempted to set fire to the stockade, carrying flax and other inflammable materials and piling them against the outside. This also failed. The expert riflemen inside, aided by the women who assisted in loading guns, made good use of the time the Indians were in exposed positions. After twenty-three hours of vain attempts to break down the stockade or destroy it by fire, the attackers turned their attention to destruction of houses and proper-



ty of all kinds. Every cabin was burned and all stock, including some 300 cattle, was killed.

In the meantime, Colonel Andrew Swearingen, and 14 men, from Holliday's Fort came down the Ohio River by boat and entered the fort. Major Samuel McCulloch, with 40 men, also arrived from Fort VanMeter. His men rode through the gate, which was thrown open on their approach, but McCulloch was cut off by the Indians and prevented from entering. He was followed by the enemy up Wheeling Hill where he met another body of warriors returning from a foray. Being thus hemmed in he escaped by plunging his horse 300 feet down its eastern side to safety. The Indians rushed to the edge, expecting to see the Major lying dead in a crumpled heap at the bottom of the hill. To their great surprise they instead saw McCulloch, still mounted on his white horse, galloping away from them.

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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.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2014

MNSAR 125TH ANNUAL MEETING



Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 11, 2014. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President Larry Wray Sisk. The colors were presented by the MNSAR Color Guard, following which President Sisk led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Minneapolis Chapter Chaplain Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

.....
 American Eagle

 Saint Paul Chapter Officers
 Minneapolis Chapter and
 2014 Minnesota Society,

 125th Annual Meeting
 Minnesota Society SAR

**INSIDE THE
 MNSAR SALUTE...**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Charles Edward Boyles. Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris reported on the Bronze Good citizenship Medal Program and the Flag Certificate Program. Eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters were sent to eleven area high schools to begin the program for 2014.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2013.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Vice President Hon. William R. Johnson. The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 12 January 2013 were approved as summarized in The SAR Salute.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$19,685.93 as of 31 December 2013.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2013, and that we also had presentations at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2014 program.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund-raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100.00 to the Society.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2013: 23 new members, five deaths, one transfer out, and one resignation, giving a net increase of sixteen. 2013 started at 156 and ended at 192. In addition we have five dual members. Rosettes were presented to Charles Tyler and Randall Smith as this was the first meeting they had attended. Jones reported on statistics regarding birthdates and registration dates.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Compatriot Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, showing net assets of \$40,088.67 as of 31 December 2013. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust. Donations to Principal during 2013 were \$2,684.33. The Trustees proposed that the 2013 interest of \$661.58 be used to pay the following donation items: Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation

Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00, and the balance of \$556.58 to the MNSAR Color Guard. If any of the amounts vary, adjustment will be made to the Color Guard Fund donation.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Sassaman reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that he mailed packets to nearly all new Eagle Scouts in 2013 and has received about twenty entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting. Over the years Minnesota has had four national winners of the \$8,000.00 scholarship, as well as second and third place winners.

Compatriot Jones reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the 12 JROTC units and the 7 ROTC units in Minnesota.

Compatriot Paul Theisen presented an outstanding and all-encompassing report on the MNSAR Color Guard. Go to www.MinnesotaSAR.org for a detailed report.

Comp Jones presented a proposal to award the Meritorious Service Medal to John Charles Sassaman and COL Ronald Edward McRoberts and the Patriot Medal to Hon. Paul Kent Theisen. The motion was enthusiastically and unanimously passed.

Other Business

Compatriot Aaron Printup presented a proposal for the creation of a marker honoring Chief Joseph Orono, for whom the City of Orono is named. He was a Penobscot Indian and brought his entire tribe in support of the American cause in the Revolution. A motion was passed to appropriate up to \$400.00 for the creation of the marker, which will be placed in the City Hall in Orono. The Minneapolis Chapter and Saint Paul Chapters were each called back into session and each passed a motion to support the project with a donation of \$100.00.

Compatriot DeCoursey reported on a program he presented last summer to a DAR Chapter when they placed a marker in Loring Park. His talk had been well received.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by NSSAR Vice President General COL Ronald McRoberts.

The Color Guard retired the colors and MNSAR President Sisk read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.



2014 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve another year for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....Larry Wray Sisk
 Vice President:John Charles Sassaman
 Secretary-Treasurer:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:.....Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar: ..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon:Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

Hon. David S. Bouschor, P.P.	James Fredrick Foster
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.	COL Ronald E. McRoberts
Curtis John Oliver	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Page Gregory Whitmore
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Charles Edward Boyles	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	David Adrian Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	William Arthur Harris
Hon. William Raymond Johnson	Robert Edward Kahl II
Mark Allen Labine	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
John David McCallum	Robert Arthur Minish
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	LTC Allen Dean Shepersky
George Floyd Smith, M.D.	Aaron Hale Printup
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen John Vescelus

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2015:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2016:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2017:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Greenville, SC, in July 2014

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon, P.P.
 Alternate National Trustee MN:....Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D., P.P.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:.....Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Vice President:Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Secretary-Treasurer:John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Board of Managers:.....Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Robert Edward Kahl II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
 Rehn Douglas Smith
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren
 Page Gregory Whitmore

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER SAR

President.....Charles Edward Boyles
 Vice PresidentJohn David McCallum
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainThomas Christopher Harris
 Board of Managers.....COL. Ronald Edward McRoberts
 Larry Wray Sisk
 John Charles Sassaman

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 15, 2014.

The topic will be "Presidential Anecdotes. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Go to <http://www.MinnesotaSAR.org>. You can catch up on meeting announcements, look up past newsletters, learn about color guard activity and about MNSAR award programs.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday September 3, 1777

BATTLE OF COOCH'S BRIDGE

Newark, Delaware – American Brigadier General William Maxwell had stationed his special corps at Cooch's Bridge. He discovered that the vanguard of Cornwallis's division was now bearing down on him. Maxwell had planted troops in readiness for an ambush along either side of the road leading from Aikin's tavern. He strung his troops out for a mile below Cooch's Bridge where the thick woods of September covered him. Maxwell ordered his troops to shoot and retreat until he himself decided on a place to make a stand.

In the vanguard of Cornwallis's column was the British light infantry and two amusettes (light field cannon) and nearly 300 Hessian and Anspach chasseurs under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Ludwig von Wurmb. (In the German army, a chasseur was a jager who was part of a regiment as opposed to those serving in the specially formed Jager corp. – Jagers were expert marksman who performed special reconnaissance missions.) Von Wurmb reported that, "about a mile beyond [Aikin's Tavern] the country was close – the woods within shot of the road frequently in front and flank and in projecting point towards the road. Here the rebels began to attack us about 9 o'clock with continued irregular fire for nearly two miles."

In short, the road was ripe for an ambush. And the silver hammers of Maxwell's musketeers came to bear upon the British.

The spirited American ambush began about two miles south of Cooch's Bridge. Mimicking tactics learned from Native Americans, the Americans hid behind trees and rocks and laid round after round into the British. Initially the British had a hard time knowing where to return fire. After taking their shots, the Americans would fall back, reload, and fire again. In this way they fell back toward Cooch's

Bridge, using the familiar terrain to their advantage. Finally, near the Bridge itself the Americans "had shot themselves out of ammunition... the fight was carried on with the sword" and bayonet. These were weapons that gave the British the advantage. Von Wurmb reported that the Americans were "finally put to flight." He continued, "But they immediately made a stand again and we drove them away a second time, when they took post beyond Christeen Creek at Cooch's Bridge."

Concurrently, the 2nd Battalion of British light infantry had been sent to the right across the Christiana Creek, to attempt an attack on the American left and rear.

That battalion went too deep and took itself out of the play. Blocked from action by Purgatory Swamp, the battalion gave up its attempt at flanking and doubled back to assist the British troops engaged with Maxwell's at the Bridge. Had the 2nd Battalion been successful at flanking, Maxwell's men would have been forced to make a hasty retreat. As it was, when the British 2nd arrived back at the bridge, they found Maxwell's corps in retreat. British Captain John Montresor stated that the flight "became so precipitate that great numbers threw down their arms and blankets." Out of ammunition and facing superior numbers, it's likely that Maxwell's corps wisely high-tailed it as fast as possible, leaving some arms and blankets behind, but in nowhere near the great numbers that Montresor claims.

General Sir William Howe arrived shortly after the battle and personally congratulated Colonel Wurmb for a fine action. Hessian losses total three killed and 20 wounded; the Americans lost around 40. For the United States, this is the first battle waged under the new stars and stripes flag.

Maxwell's Brigade

Washington was sharply feeling the loss of Daniel Morgan and his militiamen who had recently been sent to Saratoga to reinforce General Gates. In their place were green militiamen who had neither the scouting, nor the fighting capabilities, of Morgan's mountain men. In fact, these militiamen would often turn tail rather than fight at the first sign of danger. As a stopgap measure, Washington formed a "crack" brigade. This elite corps of light infantry consisted of approximately 700 men — 100 each drawn from the seven existing brigades. Picked for marksmanship and maneuverability, the corps was designed to launch cobra-quick strikes at the enemy's vulnerable points and clear out as fast as possible. Acting independently from the army, the corps would conduct reconnaissance, be used for special missions, screen, harass, and ambush. Commanding the corps is New Jersey General, "Scotch Willie" Maxwell, a veteran who had fought with Braddock in 1755.

From the late spring through early summer of 1777, George Washington anxiously tracked British movements in New York, attempting to divine their hidden meaning. General Sir William Howe commanded an army double or treble the size of his own, keeping him in an agony of suspense.

On July 23rd the largest armada ever assembled in America set sail off of Sandy Hook, New Jersey. It was carrying 17,000 British soldiers and sailors in over 260 ships. They underwent a distressful 34-day sea-trek. The voyage took its toll in lost time, seasick soldiers, and scores of dead horses.

Washington's troops started in northern New Jersey and shadowed the movement of the British fleet. Washington lost sight of the fleet for an agonizing three-week period, starting when the armada moved further offshore as it passed the Delaware Capes. He feared that the fleet may have doubled back to New York to help General Burgoyne in his attempt to capture upstate New York against the Americans headed by General Gates.

Until he could determine the destination of the fleet, Washington needed to maintain a position where he could move north or

south. When their destination was clear, Washington moved south to a position between Head of Elk and Philadelphia.

On August 28th, three days after the armada disembarked at the Head of Elk, Maryland, General Howe's army was divided into two grand divisions – one under General Charles Cornwallis, the other led by Hessian General Wilhelm von Knyphausen – and began marching toward Philadelphia.

Coming down to intercept him was George Washington, with a force variously estimated at 16,000 or 14,000 men, of which 11,000 or 12,000 were fit for duty.

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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.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2014



2014 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

February 15, 2014 – Minneapolis, MN – 38 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 65. Jax Café had prepared their signature Chicken Chardonnay served with green beans and golden potatoes. A Mushroom Ravioli was served as the vegetarian alternative. The assemblage enjoyed vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce for dessert.

VPG of the North Central District Ronald McRoberts with the MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer and the Washington Day Luncheon speaker, John Hallberg Jones.

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Annual George Washington
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John Hallberg Jones Entertains
With "Our Presidential Cousins"
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Forest Lake Eagle Scout Honored
MNSAR Color Guard Report
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New MNSAR Members
.....
American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





“OUR PRESIDENTIAL COUSINS”

John Hallberg Jones entertained the MNSAR with a delightful speech he called “Presidential Cousins” Jones started researching his genealogy at the age of 15. He has been at it ever since. He is related to 10 presidents. In fact, he noted, 30 of our 44 presidents have a common ancestor with another president.

Presidential Families of America is a lineage society comprised of members who share direct or collateral kinship with one or more presidents of the United States. Anyone who has a common ancestor in the United States with a president is eligible to join.

Hereditary Order of the Families of the Presidents and First Ladies in America is a similar organization.

Jones noted the controversy of President Barack Obama’s citizen status. This is not a new story. John McCain was born in Coco Solo Naval Air Station in the Panama Canal

Zone, to naval officer parents. At that time, the Panama Canal was under U.S. control. The controversy over Chester Arthur’s citizenship status centers around the place of Arthur’s actual birth. By one account he was born in his family’s home in Franklin County, Vermont. If this was true, then he was clearly a natural born citizen. On the other hand, the competing account has it that he was born during his pregnant mother’s visit to her family’s home in Canada.

Jones went on to share some presidential quotes: “*Philosophy is common sense with big words.*” – James Madison, and “*I have noticed that nothing I never said ever did me any harm.*” – Calvin Coolidge, were among many.

In 1869 President U. S. Grant and his Vice President, Schuyler Colfax were the youngest team inaugurated until the Clinton/Gore ticket in 1992. Jones pointed out that

Colfax passed away in Minnesota on January 13, 1885, after walking about three-quarters of a mile in –30°F weather from the Front Street depot to the Omaha depot in Mankato, Minnesota. Five minutes after arriving at the depot, Colfax died of a heart attack brought on by the extreme cold and exhaustion.

From 1840 through 1860 presidents who were elected in a year ending with 0 died in office. Soon after his inauguration, William Henry Harrison became ill with a cold. According to the prevailing medical misconception of that time, it was believed that his illness was directly caused by the bad weather at his inauguration. The cold worsened, rapidly turning to pneumonia and pleurisy. Harrison died on April 4, 1841, exactly one month after his inauguration. Lincoln was elected in 1860 and was assassinated five years later. Garfield (1880), McKinley (1900) and Kennedy (1960) were also as-

sassinated. Warren Harding (1920) and FDR (1940) died in office. Ronald Reagan (1980) survived an assassination attempt and the string was broken. Zachary Taylor is the only president who died in office not to be elected on a year ending with 0. He was elected in 1848.

Jones brought “Presidential Cousins” closer to home by pointing out many of the MNSAR member’s relationships to various Presidents and First Ladies.

Jones ended his oration with a story of 95-year-old Harrison Tyler. Harrison Tyler is the grandson of President John Tyler and lives at his grandfather’s Sherwood Forest Plantation in Virginia. President Tyler was born in 1790, during the presidency of George Washington. Their lives, from grandfather through grandson, covers the years of all 44 presidents of the United States.



The Meritorious Service Medal was presented to COL Ronald Edward McRoberts for his continuing work on a history of Stephen Taylor, the only Revolutionary War soldier known to be buried in Minnesota.



The Patriot Medal, the highest award the MNSAR can bestow, was presented to Hon. Paul Kent Theisen for chartering the Minnesota SAR Color Guard and shepherding its growth.



FOREST LAKE EAGLE SCOUT HONORED



Russell C. Wicklund, 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. Russell from Forest Lake, Minnesota was honored at the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe. His father and mother were also in attendance. Russell read his patriotic essay about John Paul Jones which is presented in this newsletter.

Russell'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 Samuel P. Donovan from Missouri. The first and second runners-up were, Scott Carl Wilson, Iowa and Landon Gunn Weeks, Utah.

Patriotic Essay, by Russell C. Wicklund – 2013 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

My future career goal is to be an officer in the United States Navy. My family values patriotism, as shown by my grandfather being in the army and serving in Greenland, by my father being in law enforcement, and by my cousin serving in the navy as a lieutenant. I would like to continue the tradition by serving my county in the navy. While traveling to the National Scouting Jamboree in 2010, my Jamboree Troop visited the United States Navy Academy. In the lower level of the Naval Academy Chapel, we saw an impressive black marble sarcophagus supported by large bronze dolphins in the middle of the room, and we learned that the remains of John Paul Jones are entombed there. I was intrigued by the display and decided to learn more about the history of John Paul Jones.

John Paul was born in Scotland in 1747. He was apprenticed on a merchant ship and later captained a merchant ship. After a dispute with a crew member's family, he fled to Virginia and used the name John Jones while a fugitive from the British. On December 22, 1755, the Continental Congress commissioned the first officers of the Continental Navy, including Jones as first lieutenant. Jones started working before he was confirmed, and was the first person to raise a United States flag on a naval ship on December 3, 1775.

In 1778, Jones led the first American raid on the British Isles, attacking forts in Whitehaven and capturing three British. In September 1779, he attacked the British ship *Serapis*. During the attack, his own ship, the *Bonhomme Richard*, was sinking. The British demanded that he surrender, and he famously replied, "I have not yet begun to fight." Some historical authors claim this quote is inaccurate and have been paraphrased over the years, but his intention was clear. After a long battle, the British captain surrendered. The *Bonhomme Richard* was damaged and abandoned. Jones took over the *Serapis* and sailed into a Dutch port without a flag. The Dutch recognized a flag based on a description by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, which included red, white, and blue stripes with eight-pointed stars. This flag is called the John Paul Jones flag or the *Serapis* flag. The flag is incorporated into the crest of the *USS John Paul Jones*, a currently commissioned destroyer.

As one historian noted, after later wars, "the elements of combat doctrine established by John Paul Jones became deeply ingrained in the sailors of the U.S. Navy. In a broader, strategic perspective, Jones's commitment to the proactive, forward employment of naval forces as an essential part of national maritime strategy was validated." John Paul Jones



died in Paris in 1792. His remains found and were ceremoniously brought back to the United States in 1905. In January 1913, he was placed in the Naval Academy Chapel.

American history is filled with heroes. John Paul Jones is one of the great heroes of the American Revolution and the United States Navy. My visit to the Naval Academy has inspired me to continue to reach for my goal of joining the navy.

Next Meeting

The Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on October 4, 2014.

The speaker will be a former president of the MNSAR, Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, a retired judge from Duluth. He will cover reminiscences from his many years on the bench. You won't want to miss it.

Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday September 12, 1777

SHATTERING DEFEAT AT BRANDYWINE

Chester, Pennsylvania – Toward midnight, in a private home in Chester, Washington informed Congress of the shattering defeat. His letter to John Hancock began, “Sir: I am sorry to inform you that in this day’s engagement, we have been obliged to leave the enemy masters of the field.” It continued: “Notwithstanding the misfortune of the day, I am happy to find the troops in good spirits; and I hope another time, we shall compensate for the losses now sustained.” This sounded, after the bloody disaster, like sheer fantasy, but the troops had fought in a spirited manner; the defeat resulted from the failed performance of the leaders, not the lethargy of the rank and file.

As General Sir William Howe moved toward Philadelphia, General Washington decided to cut off his approach at a place called Brandywine Creek, a difficult stream to negotiate. A landscape of plunging ravines and forested hills, Brandywine Creek presented a natural line of defense southwest of Philadelphia. Washington concentrated the bulk of his forces on wooded high ground behind Chadds Ford, on the east side of the creek, where the major road crossed. Relying on flawed intelligence, he posted detachments the length of the creek, stretching up to what he thought was the northernmost crossing.

On the night of September 10, a spy informed Howe of the existence of two fords still farther north – a flagrant breach in American defenses that had

gone unnoticed, in a manner reminiscent of the Battle of Brooklyn. Howe decided that he and Cornwallis, with 8,200 men, would secretly execute a bold sweeping movement to the north. They would then turn east, cross these newly discovered fords, circle back to the south, and sneak up behind the right flank of Washington’s army. All the while, an advance column of 5,000 troops under Baron Wilhelm von Knyphausen would smash straight east into Washington’s army at Chadds Ford, distracting the Americans and duping them into thinking this was the main enemy offensive. While Washington’s military instincts told him that Howe might steal up behind his right flank, he didn’t assign a high enough priority to investigating this possibility and delegated a crucial scouting mission to General John Sullivan and Colonel Theodorick Bland. Unaccountably, the Americans proved ignorant of their own home turf, while Howe operated with faultless information.

In the predawn light of September 11, 1777, General Howe launched his maneuver. In the early morning, Knyphausen’s units clashed, as planned, with the main American force at Chadds Ford. Washington presided over the troops there and, as usual, showed no qualms about exposing himself to enemy fire, even when it beheaded an artilleryman nearby. With the newly commissioned Major General the Marquis de Lafayette at his side, Washington rode the length of the line to the sound of cheering men, but he



was blind to the true shape of the emerging battlefield.

Aware that he saw only a fraction of the British Army, Washington was tormented by a nagging question: What had happened to the bulk of the enemy’s forces? Around noon Lieutenant Colonel James Ross of Pennsylvania informed him that, on a reconnaissance expedition, he had clashed with five thousand British troops on the west side of Brandywine Creek, along the Great Valley Road; he thought these troops had been led by General Howe himself.

On the spot, as his original battle plan unraveled, Washington sorted through a blizzard of contradictory information. Amid sharp clashes at Chadds Ford, General Sullivan relayed a report from Major Joseph Spear saying that he, too, had been at the Great Valley Road but found not a trace of Howe’s army. Tricked by Howe many times, Washington feared that his nemesis was about to deceive him again. Indeed, he drew the wrong conclusion from Spear’s report: he imag-

ined that Howe had turned south and was doubling back to Chadds Ford, But in fact Howe was heading north in a long, looping movement; around noon his soldiers and horses, veiled by thick fog, waded across the northern crossing at Jeffries Ford, of whose existence Washington was unaware. As they splashed through waist-high water, the British and Hessians were flabbergasted to encounter no American resistance. By one-fifteen P.M. Washington had received reports of two British brigades moving upon Birmingham Hill from the north and abruptly realized that Howe had outwitted him.

Now that he knew his peril, George Washington moved decisively. He ordered his entire right wing – all three divisions under General Sullivan – to march north at once to oppose Howe coming south. He was to seize and fortify the terrain around Birmingham Meeting House. At Chadds Ford General Anthony Wayne, with two brigades and artillery, was ordered to hold Knyphausen.

General Greene's division of two brigades was detached from Chadds Ford as a reserve to march to the assistance of either Sullivan or Wayne. Washington remained with Greene. Waiting... Waiting... Waiting for the eruption of the sound of battle to the north of him at Birmingham or to the west of Chadds Ford.

At half-past four it came with a roar that could be heard in Philadelphia. The main battle had begun at Birmingham. To the west of Chadds Ford, Knyphausen, having heard the signal, opened a bombardment preliminary to attack. Washington hesitated momentarily, but then, deciding that Wayne would have to handle Knyphausen by himself, he ordered Greene north to reinforce Sullivan and to hold open the road to Philadelphia. Washington himself must follow Greene because he wanted to be at the scene of the grand battle. He spurred his horse toward the hill as fast as it would fly. Behind them streamed the general's staff, and the sound of battle grew louder – then ominously still.

The American position, on an eminence opposite Osborne's Hill, was faulty. Stirling's and Spenser's divisions were joined, but Sullivan, in coming up on Stirling's left, was nearer to the enemy and about a half mile away from Stirling. Falling back, Sullivan formed his troops in line with the other divisions, but with the undefended half-mile space still separating them. Then he rode off to confer with Stirling and Stephen. They told him that the British apparently were planning to turn the American right and that he, Sullivan, should move in that direction to present a united front and the whole force would then shift farther right to block the turning movement. Sullivan agreed and returned to his division to move it to the right. At

this point, the British attacked, coming down Osborne's Hill in a bright mass of color and glittering bayonets, the bands playing, "The British Grenadiers."

Crossing the road between the two heights in perfect alignment, the British forces began climbing the hill in a silent, disciplined mass, with the light infantry and Hessian and Anspach jaegers in the lead. With loud cries but no shots, they fell upon the American right, which was held by the three regiments of Marylanders commanded by the French General Prudhomme de Borre. The sight of those out-thrust steel tips was too much for the Yankees, and they broke and fled into a nearby wood, thus exposing Stephen's right flank.

At this point Sullivan's troops were marching to close the gap between themselves and Stirling's left. They moved directly in a column in front of the oncoming enemy. Unnerved by the sight of all the martial color approaching them; of those cruel steel points; and the disdainful, arrogant sound of the military music, they began to straggle, to become fragmented into groups. Sullivan was not there to rally and re-form them, for he had gone to his center to direct his artillery. Now thoroughly panicked, his men sought to return whence they came. Sullivan, riding up at last, sought to restrain them but they paid him no heed, and so the American left was also swept clean away. Shorn of its wings, the American center, with Stirling's division and what was left of Stephen's fought valiantly against the pride of European militarism. There were three thousand of them, and their generals – Sullivan, Stirling, Stephen and French-Irishman Thomas Conway – moved among them shouting encouragement. Galloping into the fray, ardent for battle, came the young French nobleman, the Marquis de La-

fayette – fighting on after being wounded in the leg. Shot in the left calf, he didn't grasp the severity of the wound until his boot was soaked with blood and he had to be lifted off the battlefield.

Five times the rebels were driven off that hill, and five times they returned to evict their tormentors. Though shaken, the British regulars and their Hessian allies, twice the number of the Yankees opposing them and backed by four twelve-pounders, were not to be denied. All seemed lost for the American army and the new American nation. Its best troops fighting their best fight in the young country's brief history were giving way, tumbling back downhill – but marching up the road to their rescue came Greene's division, the brigades of Colonel Peter Muhlenberg and Brigadier General George Weedon.

Opening their ranks, the fresh Americans allowed their exhausted comrades to stagger through and re-form – closing their ranks again to confront the flower of Europe. At first they held them, backed up by artillery. But the British pressure was too great, and Greene began a slow, fighting retreat. Coming to a narrow defile, flanked on both sides by thick woods, the Americans turned again – holding off their pursuers with a steady fire. Still the enemy pressed forward, resorting for the first time to regular volleys of musketry, launching repeated bayonet charges. The fighting raged so close, sometimes hand to hand, that the Anspachers recognized their old comrade, Colonel Muhlenberg, who had fought with them as an enlisted man, "*Hier kommt Teufel Piet!*" they cried in delight. "Here comes Devil Pete!" But the Americans doggedly held the pass for forty-five minutes. At last the sun went down, and Greene skillfully drew off his entire division. Exhausted,

the British and Hessians made no attempt to follow.

The Battle of Brandywine Creek did not end at Birmingham Meeting House. At Chadds Ford Knyphausen attacked furiously behind an artillery bombardment. Wayne's Americans held stubbornly at first, but gradually gave way after the Hessians, with Knyphausen personally leading, moved across Pyle's Ford below Chadds and launched an attack in the face of artillery and musket fire. With this assault, Wayne's left gave way, losing its artillery – after which Lady Luck, so often the true arbiter of battle, waved her wand over Knyphausen. Cornwallis's guards and grenadiers, who had pursued Sullivan's fleeing soldiers, became lost in the woods and by accident blundered upon the exposed flank of Wayne's center, and the entire American line fell back. With this and the advent of darkness, the Battle of Brandywine Creek came to an end.

It had been a fierce fight, and although Howe was victorious, the Americans for the first time showed a tenacity and discipline that surprised their enemies. All told, the Americans lost about 200 killed, 500 wounded, and 400 captured versus only 90 killed and 500 wounded for the triumphant British.

Sources:

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

Washington by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, NY 2010



Minnesota SAR Color Guard Report

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard was organized in 2007 to provide a uniformed team to present colors at SAR and public events: to remind us of our heritage and honor those from whom we are descended, and the public for the same plus a way to kindle the flame of patriotism.

The team began with three members and has now grown to eight.

The Guard has appeared at local DAR meetings, a State DAR Convention, Freedom Day events in the Brainerd Lakes area, citizenship ceremonies in Saint Cloud, Patriot Day service at Fort Snelling, joint DAR/SAR recruiting events in Brainerd, many schools and for four years participating in the Fourth of July CAR flying pancake breakfast in Wayzata. This coming Patriot Day the MNSAR Color Guard will be participating with hundreds of flag bearers at the Twin Cities 9-11 day memorial presentation. With all this mentioned, they would like to be busier.

Of course, the first need is for members of the uniformed team. They would like additional flag bearers and muskets. Their pressing need is for drummers and fife players. They could use members in revolutionary war era civilian clothing who have a story to tell, like a preacher in period costume.

They would welcome wives and children of members to dress the part and stand with the uniformed members at events.



What a learning and teaching opportunity for our families.

They need assistance from the membership at large as well. They would like a person, either in uniform or not, to cover Public Relations, to take photographs of their events, to write the events up for the newsletter and the SAR magazine, as well as local press releases.

The MNSAR Color Guard is the nucleus for a growing team. They hope that in the future they will be open to "Associate" members outside of the SR and SAR: like the DAR, CAR, 7th Pennsylvania re-enactment group, American Legion and anyone who shares the dedication to the ideals and goals of the SR and SAR, but may be unable to meet the membership requirements.

The MNSAR Color Guard has no requirements for one's amount of participation. Participate when you can. This is a fun activity, full of teaching and learning. Each member of the MNSAR Color Guard have individually grown with the experience and wish to have others join.

Contact: Paul Kent Theisen
psth36@mainstreetcom.com

New MNSAR Members



New members Stuart Henry Markham, III and Stephen Edward Neiswanger received their certificate of membership and rosette during the Washington Day Luncheon.



Three Generations of MNSAR Members – VPG Ronald McRoberts, Dr. Sean McRoberts and the youngest member of the MNSAR, Jack McRoberts.

MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented new members with their certificate of membership and rosette: Stephen Edward Neiswanger, Stuart Henry Markham III, and Jack Edward McRoberts (grandson of VPG McRoberts). Additionally Jack McRoberts was presented his Life Membership certificate and pin, and his father Dr. Sean McRoberts was presented a rosette, as this was the first meeting he attended. A rosette was also presented to Ronald Erickson who had joined last year.

Supplemental Application certificates were presented to James Everett Hagen, Michael Alan Wedell, and Ronald Edward McRoberts. A supplemental certificate will be mailed to John Charles Sassaman, who was unable to attend.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Stephen Edward Neiswanger.....	Nathan Brewster
Stuart Henry Markham, III.....	Barzillai Markham
Jack Edward McRoberts.....	Elijah Barnes, Sr.

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS APPROVED:

James Everett Hagen	Peter Relyea
John Charles Sassaman.....	Johan Martin Potteiger
Michael Alan Wedell	Lambert Darland
Ronald Edward McRoberts	Elisha Phillips

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2014



Honoring Chief Orono

Orono Minnesota – On May 27, 2014, members of the MNSAR, the Lake Minnetonka Chapters of the DAR and C.A.R. were on hand at the Orono City Council Chambers for Orono’s 125th anniversary dedication event honoring the city’s namesake, Chief Joseph Orono.

Chief Orono was leader of the Penobscot tribe in Maine who gallantly supported the Americans during the Revolutionary War. In 1806, Chief Orono’s efforts were recognized by naming the Penobscot River Valley township in his honor, thereby creating Orono, Maine. New Englanders who settled on the shores of Lake Minnetonka bestowed the name Orono on their township at its creation in 1889 in memory of their beloved home.

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Remembering
Francis P. Markoe

2014 MNSAR Medals and
Awards Programs

Eighth Annual C.A.R.
Pancake Breakfast

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MNSAR SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS

Chief Joseph Orono Plaque Dedication



The Minnesota Society of the Sons of the American Revolution have graciously donated a plaque honoring Chief Joseph Orono, which was dedicated at the beginning of the regular meeting of the Orono City Council on May 27.

The event was spearheaded by MNSAR member, Aaron Hale Printup, who is also a member of the Orono City Council.

During the dedication ceremony the mayor read a letter from the chairperson of the town council of Orono, Maine. Former President of the MNSAR, Larry Sisk, said a few words about Chief Orono and how glad he and the MNSAR were to donate the plaque. Representatives of the Lake Minnetonka Chapter DAR and C.A.R. also spoke during the event.

Remembering Francis P. Markoe

Our senior member of the MNSAR, Francis P. Markoe, passed away peacefully at home on May 4, 2014. He joined the MNSAR in 1946. Markoe is survived by four children, 10 grandchildren, one great-granddaughter and five brothers.

Markoe was an entrepreneur, starting his business in 1956. His passions were traveling with his family and friends, the “penny game”, pool side lunches with his grandchildren and great-granddaughter, family dinners with four generations, storytelling, cruises, and watering his lawn.

He was a longtime resident of Dellwood, Minnesota.

His son, Francis L. Markoe, is currently a member of the MNSAR.

2014 MNSAR Medals and Awards Programs

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

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

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following Compatriots for volunteering to present medals and certificates: Charles E. Boyles, Hon. William Johnson, John Hallberg Jones, Truck Morrison, John C. Sassaman, LTC Dean Shepersky, Larry W. Sisk, and Marvin E. Stonecipher.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Med-

als in 2014. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country.

This Spring we awarded the medal in 24 area high schools and one Naval Sea Cadets squadron.

In all, it was a fine program once again.

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

Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR. This years recipients were:

- Murphy’s Auto Repair, Hastings
- Newport Auto, Newport
- Pease Cafe, Pease
- Shell Rapid Lube, Hastings
- Van Dyke Mansion, Hastings

Eighth Annual C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast

Wayzata, MN – World War II and Korean War veterans were honored at the historic Wayzata Depot during the annual C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast held on Independence Day. The annual event features the “Flying Pancakes” where recipients stand back as their pancakes are tossed from the grill onto their plates. The weather was perfect and attendance was huge.

The MNSAR Color Guard and the Seventh Pennsylvania participated in flag raising and the veteran ceremonies. Mayor Willcox of Wayzata introduced each honored veteran and the Lake Minnetonka C.A.R. presented each with a patriotic hat. The Lake Minnetonka Children of the American Revolution originated, produce and man this annual family celebration, which fulfills their motto of, “Patriotism in Action”.



AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday September 20, 1777

BLOODY BATTLE AT FREEMAN'S FARM

Stillwater, New York – British General John Burgoyne *had* to attack. He had to brush aside the Americans barring his path to Albany, and had to do it quickly. There were not enough horses to pull his big guns and not enough fodder to feed those he had. He had thirty days' supply of food for his army, with no help forthcoming from either General Sir Guy Carleton or General Sir William Howe. If he did not press on, he would have to return to Quebec, as Carleton had a year ago, and produce the same sort of unfavorable reaction in Whitehall. Burgoyne was down to about six thousand men against about seven thousand under Horatio Gates, the American General who recently replaced General Philip Schuyler as Commander of the Northern Department of the Continental Army. This minimal inferiority did not faze Burgoyne because he still clung to his low estimate of American fighting prowess. What he did not realize was that Washington's generosity had provided Gates with more experienced regulars than raw militia, a new and reversed composition of the American field forces.

Late in the afternoon of September 18, General Benedict Arnold and his staff had ridden north to reconnoiter the British advance. Arnold knew roughly the British position: he had continually sent guerrilla parties of Daniel Morgan's riflemen out to harass British work crews and snipe at British officers. Colonel Richard Varick galloped up to Arnold and said he had spotted some redcoats on a distant hill. Arnold

could see that the British would probably reach the Americans by late on the 19th, but for now he wheeled his big sorrel horse and returned to camp, disappointing Varick, who had been "in hopes of the General's ordering a party to attack them." That night, the British camped on high ground less than two miles from the American army.

Just as Arnold had expected, the next day, September 19th, 1777, the British tried to outflank the Americans. Burgoyne divided his army into three columns, General Simon Fraser was to be on the British right with 2,200 Loyalists, Indians, and British and German light infantry, trying to skirt the American left and get around behind the long American lines: Fraser's column faced Morgan's riflemen and General Poor's and Learned's veterans. Burgoyne personally commanded the British center, leaving the bulk of the Hessians on his left to protect the artillery train and baggage wagons on the river road. It had been cold and foggy that morning, and Burgoyne and his staff had been unable to get a clear look at the American entrenchments as they advanced through the forest. By eleven o'clock, it cleared, and Burgoyne ordered three signal guns fired. The attack was on, as an American patrol quickly reported to Gates's headquarters in the row of tents inside the fortifications atop Bemis Heights. Shortly after noon, the British vanguard reached a 350-yard clearing while Burgoyne awaited word of Fraser's whereabouts on his right. In his command post, Gates was stubbornly refusing



Arnold's latest exhortation to march out and attack the British quickly before they dug in. But Arnold already had permission for a reconnaissance force, and he interpreted this to mean he could send out Morgan's riflemen and Dearborn's light infantry from his left to make contact with the British. He also sent orders by his aides to get the rest of his division ready to march out to Morgan's support.

When Morgan's men reached the southern edge of Freeman's Meadow, they saw British pickets sitting nonchalantly in the high weeds around the firehouse. One volley of Morgan's rifles scattered the British guard and drove all but its officers back to the woods on the far side: the officers had all been shot dead. When Morgan and his riflemen pursued the fleeing soldiers, they ran headlong into the unyielding center of Burgoyne's army,

which now opened up with volley after volley. The riflemen broke and ran back across the clearing into the American side of the woods. For a moment, Daniel Morgan thought his regiment had been destroyed, and the six-foot-two, two-hundred-pound former teamster openly wept. But he continued to make the signal turkey call, and soon his men regrouped around him. When Morgan's men retreated, Burgoyne ordered his redcoats to march into the clearing and line up by regiments: three thousand redcoats with their field artillery took their places for battle. On the American rim of the forest, Morgan and Dearborn drew up their men and ordered them to open fire on the red line in front of them.

As an aide brought word that Morgan's prized regiment was in trouble, Arnold had all the justification he needed to order in Learned's and Poor's New Hampshire brigades. The

reinforcements, finding that the riflemen had regrouped and were fighting back, took positions to their left. The American line now erupted in a volley at the silent British line. As scores of redcoats dropped in the tall grass, the British, leaving their cannons, turned and ran to their side of the forest, the Americans pursuing them, trying to capture the cannon and turn them on the redcoats. Before they could open up with the artillery, British grenadiers charged them with bayonets, driving them across the field. Back and forth the charges surged, and the volleys ran all afternoon, for nearly four hours, until there were nearly a thousand dead and wounded bodies in the field between the armies. As Arnold ordered out each fresh American unit, seven regiments in all, he extended the American line farther into the woods, away from the river and curling uphill and around the British right flank. On either end of the British line, for most of the afternoon, men stood and leaned on their weapons, unaware of what was happening until their brigade was sent into the fray, which was confined mostly to Freeman's Meadow. Most of the Americans, like Gates and his staff officers, never left the protection of the breastworks nearly two miles away.

All afternoon, Arnold spurred his men on, personally leading their charges and maneuvers, constantly exposed to enemy fire, preferring to lead by example more than by orders. When Fraser's light infantry suddenly turned and skillfully fell on Arnold's right, Arnold galloped up and down the line, rallying his men, shouting, "Come on, boys. Hurry up, my brave boys!" At the head of five regiments of troops, he charged the British center, attempting to break through. Then he led a rapid counter-march through the woods on

the left, trying to break Fraser away from Burgoyne. His attack was bold, brilliant, well disciplined. When he led the charge down from a wooded hill, he very nearly overran the British: only heavy reinforcements of Hessians stopped him. Commuting back and forth between Gates's headquarters and the battlefield a mile and a half away on a big black horse he had named Warren after his old mentor, Arnold "urged, begged and entreated" for more troops from Gates. According to veterans, Gates gave no orders and only once protested. When Arnold led seven regiments into battle, Gates protested that he wanted Scammel's brigade brought back to protect headquarters.

To break the stalemate, Burgoyne, who could see from his horse in the thick of the fighting that the troops in the center of the line were played out and in danger of being outnumbered and outflanked, ordered the Hessians to leave the wagons on the riverbank lightly guarded and relieve the pressure on his troops by charging across Mill Creek ravine to attack the American right. The Hessian reinforcements were led by Major General Baron von Riedesel, whose innovative tactics had routed the Vermonters at Hubbardton. He now was risking annihilation of his vital supply train and bateaux along the river, but Burgoyne was in desperate shape, every bayonet charge being repulsed by heavy American fire. With five hundred infantry and two six-pounders, Riedesel puffed to the top of a hill and ordered his Hessians to advance down into the supposedly impassable Mill Creek ravine, into the weak spot of the American right flank. Surprised, the Americans began to fall back in confusion. At this point, dashing back to Gates, Arnold finally persuaded him to order out Learned's entire brigade from

camp to hurry around behind the Hessians from the woods, but Gates refused to let Arnold personally lead the counter-attack. He made a point of sending Learned himself.

As Learned's troops went astray, becoming lost in the woods and plundering into Simon Fraser's British light infantry, Arnold paced and fumed. Now the sound of musketry came from the American left and right and grew heavier. Effective leadership at the front at this instant could have given the Americans a smashing victory, making Burgoyne give up the attack and retreat toward Ticonderoga and Canada. Gates and Arnold were outside the headquarters tent when Gates's aide, Colonel Morgan Lewis, rode up. Gates was sure he had made a master stroke by dispatching Learned: he asked Lewis how the battle was going now with Learned on the field. Not well, Lewis reported, the fighting was still indecisive. All afternoon, Benedict Arnold had been impatiently sending off couriers, dispatching regiments, pressuring Gates to attack: now he could not stand to remain on the defensive another instant.

"By God, I will soon put an end to it," he shouted, spurring his horse toward the firing. As he galloped off, Lewis remarked to Gates, "You had better order him back. The action is going well. He may, by some rash act, do mischief." Gates turned to his adjutant, Wilkinson, and ordered him to bring back Arnold. Furious, Arnold had no choice but to obey Gates's direct order and return to headquarters. It was getting dark as the Americans retreated through the woods behind their breastworks, leaving Burgoyne in possession of the bloody clearing. The last army to leave a battlefield is technically the victor, but as he ordered his troops back to their camp two miles away and left

behind 620 dead or dying men mingled with three hundred killed or wounded Americans, he was stunned at the American resistance. That night, as camp-following women from both armies stripped the dead, the moans of the wounded carried through the chill night air, haunting men on both sides forbidden to go and help for fear of touching off another round of fighting.

Burgoyne nevertheless resolved to resume the attack at dawn. He believed the Americans were exhausted and demoralized. He was right, for the American soldiers were down to one round of ammunition per man and had no more food. But Burgoyne's troops were hardly better off, Fraser advising his chief that they were too exhausted to deliver another assault so soon. They were also shattered by the surprising courage and tenacity of the Yankees. Lieutenant Anbury stated: "We are now become fully convinced that they are not that contemptible enemy that we had imagined them." He also lamented that to claim victory because the British remained in possession of the field was but a hollow vaunt. "I am fearful the advantage resulting from this hard-fought battle will rest on that of the Americans, our army being so weakened by this engagement as not to be of sufficient strength to venture forth and improve the victory, which may, in the end, put a stop to our intended expedition."

Sources:

Benedict Arnold, Patriot and Traitor
by Willard Sterne Randall,
Barnes and Noble Books, 1990

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

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • ATUMN 2014



Annual Constitution Day Luncheon

Thirty-five members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 54. Jax Café had prepared their marvelous Broiled Atlantic Salmon, with a Mushroom Ravioli as the vegetarian alternative. Key Lime Pie topped off the meal.

Many awards, new member certificates and rosettes were presented during the meeting. Twelve members of the Mitchell family were in attendance to witness Harold Thomas Mitchell Jr., Harold Thomas Mitchell III, Todd Lewis Mitchell and Tore Walton Mitchell accepting their member certificate and rosette.

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





David Sinclair Bouschor Addressed the MNSAR at the Constitution Day Luncheon



Retired District Judge, David Sinclair Bouschor was the speaker of the day at the MNSAR Constitution Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 4, 2014. His talk on “The Anatomy of Justice” was a thoroughly enjoyable presentation of anecdotes from trials over which he presided during his distinguished career on the bench. He noted that Duluth, Minnesota had very few serious crimes during the 1970’s. One notable exception was the murder trial of

Marjorie Congdon.

Bouschor also noted that the U.S. Court System is better than that of many other nations. He feels that Minnesota has very good District Judges who are elected by the people every six years.

David Bouschor is a past president of the former Duluth Chapter and the Minnesota Society SAR. Following his dissertation he was presented the Certificate of Appreciation from the Minnesota Society.

Awards Presented During the Luncheon

- Eagle Scout Streamer from the NSSAR to the Minnesota Society.
- Honorable Mention in the Jennings H. Flathers Award to the State Society (Minnesota) with fewer than 500 members with the best news publication.
- Meritorious Service Medal from the Minnesota Society to John Charles Sassaman for his untiring work aiding prospective members in joining the MNSAR.
- Liberty Medal from the NSSAR to John Sassaman for being the top-line sponsor on ten member applications.



Five Mitchell’s accept their Membership Certificates and Rosettes from the Secretary-Treasurer of the MNSAR, John Hallberg Jones.



Craig Whiting shows his musket to a youngster following the Constitution Day Luncheon.



Eagle Scout Committee Chair, John Sassaman, and his assistant, Stuart Markham, III, unfurl the Eagle Scout Streamer. Paul Kent Theisen stands between them.

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Changes Since Spring 2014

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Daniel Walter Latham.....	Jesse Kneeland
Harold Thomas Mitchell, Jr.	Garret Harsin
Leonard Charles Wilson	Robert Wilson, Sr.
Neal Preston Kingsley	Israel Curtis, Jr.
Kevin Alexander Bley	Elijah Banks
Halold Thomas Mitchell, III.....	Garret Harsin
Mason Mathew Mitchell.....	Garret Harsin
Todd Lewis Mitchell.....	Garret Harsin
Tore Walton Mitchell.....	Garret Harsin

MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Chase John Jones.....	Elijah Lincoln
Lincoln Darwin Jones.....	Elijah Lincoln

TRANSFERRED IN FROM OTHER STATES:

Kyle Francis Crissey.....	Isaac Swift
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SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS APPROVED:

William Raymond Johnson.....	Jonathan Woodburn
William Raymond Johnson.....	Norman Burroughs
Ronald Wayne Peterson.....	Thaddeus Pratt
Ronald Wayne Peterson.....	Eli Bosworth
Bryce Alexander Remple.....	William Cheatwood
Bryce Alexander Remple.....	John Clayton

- Oak Leaf Cluster to Arthur Louis Finnell to supplement his Liberty Medal for being the top-line sponsor on ten member applications.
- Life Membership Pin from the Minnesota Society to Arthur Finnell.
- Bronze Color Guard Medal from the Minnesota Society to Craig Whiting.
- Lamplighter Award from the NSSAR to Stephen Thompson for his support for the Center of Advancing America’s Heritage.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday October 5, 1777

AMERICANS DEFEATED AT GERMANTOWN

Germantown, Pennsylvania—The American Army was defeated yesterday at Germantown, Pennsylvania. General George Washington devised a convoluted nocturnal march and dawn attack that was nearly victorious. Germantown had ended in a tragic reversal of fortunes of war. Such a complicated plan needs almost perfect execution and completely cooperative conditions of terrain and weather. But the conditions were too hostile and the human errors too numerous.

After the Brandywine disaster, General Washington marched his battered army north across the Schuylkill River to Pennypacker's Mill. No longer could he guarantee the safety of the American capital.

Around this time Washington received another sickening piece of news. On the night of September 20-21 British infantry had crept through the woods near Paoli and massacred American troops led by General Anthony Wayne. To ensure surprise, General Charles Grey ordered his men to remove their flints from their muskets and rush forward with fixed bayonets. They pitilessly slashed their sleeping victims, killing or wounding three hundred Americans. The "Paoli Massacre" caused Congress to flee Philadelphia to the safety of York, Pennsylvania.

On September 26 the British, led by General Howe, entered Philadelphia to a liberator's reception. Curiously, the fall of Philadelphia was not universally dispiriting. It had been emptied of stores, Congress was gone, it was not a source of supply. If Washing-

ton could hold the water approaches, Howe would be hard put to feed his army.

Although General Cornwallis had taken a detachment of British and Hessian soldiers into Philadelphia, General Howe retained the main body of his army at Germantown, a village just six miles northwest of the city, hard by the Schuylkill River. He expressly placed it there as a bulwark between Washington's army and the capital. Eager for a victory after so much wretched news, and with 8,000 Continentals, and 3,000 militia at his disposal, Washington reckoned that he could stage a surprise raid on Howe's force of 9,000 men, an idea that grew on him when he heard that Howe had diverted two regiments to attack a small American fort on the Delaware.

At a war council on October 3, Washington told his receptive generals that Howe's maneuver made it an auspicious moment for an operation. Forever attuned to the psychological state of his men, he knew this might be the last chance for a victory before winter. Only something dramatic could revive his countrymen's flagging spirits. As he told his generals, "It was time to remind the English that an American army still existed."

As usual, Howe had shrewdly chosen his army camp at Germantown, a place crisscrossed by creeks, ravines, and gorges. The town's main street, the Germantown Road, was lined for two miles with snug, stone houses, many protected by fences and hedges that could retard an American advance. Doubtless remembering his nocturnal raid across the

Delaware, Washington devised another convoluted plan for a forced nighttime march. On October 3 four widely spaced but roughly parallel columns would start moving southeast at nightfall and would converge on Germantown by dawn. Along with General Sullivan, Washington would spearhead a column of 3,000 men charging down the Germantown Road. To the northeast, Greene would lead 5,000 men along a parallel path, the Lime Kiln Road, while still farther north General William Smallwood and another 1,000 militia would venture along a winding old Indian path called the Old York Road. To the south, General John Armstrong would guide 2,000 Pennsylvania militia along the Schuylkill. If all went according to plan, Washington's central column would swoop down on the unsuspecting British, while Greene's column swung around and pinioned their helpless army against the Schuylkill River.

Sullivan's column, marching down the Skippack Road, included Conway in the advance brigade, followed by Wayne, Striling, Maxwell, and Washington himself. Its mission was to reach the British outposts at Mount Airy before dawn. But because of the roughness of the country they were traversing, they did not reach their objective until a misty sun was risen. At once Captain Allen McLane, of the Delaware light horse, charged the enemy pickets, driving them back—but not before they had fired two signal shots that alerted Howe's entire army.

At once the Second Light Infantry rushed to the front, strik-

ing Conway so savagely that he had to call his entire brigade to hold his position. Then the Fortieth Light Infantry, under Colonel Thomas Musgrave, a brave and resourceful officer, joined the battle. Conway was stopped. Sullivan then deployed his own troops to the west or right of his route, trying to dislodge Musgrave—but the light infantry held. Sullivan next called upon Wayne, whose men came charging forward yelling, "Have at the bloodhounds! Remember the Paoli Massacre!" For once the Americans used the bayonet effectively. Twice they hurled the redcoats back, twice they withstood their counter-charges. Now the British began to surrender! Their blood up, Wayne's soldiers ran them through, even after they had laid down their arms and "were crying for mercy." Nothing their officers would do would restrain them. At last came the sweetest music ever in Yankee ears: British bugles blowing the retreat.

Back fell the redcoats, making a stand at every fence, wall and ditch. Sullivan's men pursued, tearing down the fences that were fragmenting them. For a full mile they drove Musgrave and his men before them. Now General Howe came riding furiously up to the front. "For shame, light infantry!" he cried. "I never saw you retreat before! Form! Form! It's only a scouting party."

To give him the lie, and to warm the hearts of his maligned troops, a Yankee charge of grape burst over Howe's head—and the Americans came charging forward.

The sunrise mist was now thickening into fog, growing

rapidly denser. Beneath the cover of its swirling gray billows, the wily Musgrave fed six of his riddled companies into a huge gray mansion astride the east, or left, side of the Skip-pack Road. The mansion was the home of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew. Closing the shutters and barricading the doors, Musgrave posted his men at the windows of the second story. Upon the approach of Sullivan's reserves, the redcoats delivered a plunging fire that sent the Patriots scattering. It was an unexpected impasse, the first setback of a so-far astonishingly successful attack. What was to be done? Washington conferred with his generals. The natural fighters wanted to push on, bypassing the Chew House and leaving a guard behind to neutralize its defenders. But Henry Knox, speaking with resonant authority, cited the military doctrine that, in hostile country, one never left a fortified castle in the rear. This sounded like the sage voice of experience, and Washington made a snap judgment to side with the minority view. It would prove a costly error.

Under orders from Washington, Lieutenant Colonel William Smith, carrying a white flag, approached the house with a demand for surrender. The British hold up inside instantly shot and killed the colonel. At this point Washington assigned three regiments to the thankless task of vanquishing the stout house. Knox ringed it with four cannon and pummeled it at oblique angles, but the stone walls seemed impervious. The prolonged attempt to take the Chew House held up part of Washington's column for half an hour and gave Howe's men a chance to regroup. Small squads of Americans kept darting toward the house, only to be pelted by British fire until the grounds were "strewn with a prodigious number of rebel dead," said a British officer.

Belatedly, Washington heeded his dissenting officers and

told his army to move on, leaving a small detachment behind.

With two-thirds of the American army, Nathaniel Greene's column had four miles longer to march than did the other columns. Greene had also been led astray by his guide, so that he was an hour late as he drew near the left of Sullivan's column and the Chew House. At that point Adam Stephen, who was drunk, heard the Chew House gunfire and without orders from Greene, swung his division in that direction. Here was the second unraveling of Washington's plan. Stephen's artillery followed him to join in the futile battering of the big stone mansion, losing another hour.

Greene, with his own division and the brigades of Muhlenberg, McDougall and Charles Scott, pressed forward. Meeting the advancing British at his objective of Luken's Mill on the enemy right, he became engaged in a fierce fight, finally pushing the redcoats back and delivering his planned attack on their right flank. But the British resisted, they had extended their right so that they threatened to outflank Greene's left. Concealed by the fog now thickened with gunsmoke, the American commander skillfully counter-marched his troops to his left to avoid encirclement. Then he struck the enemy wing so hard that it gave way. Devil Pete Muhlenberg led a bayonet charge so impetuous that his men drove clear through the British camp, taking many prisoners. Victory seemed within Washington's grasp.

Even the major unraveling of the battle of the Chew House and the minor one of Stephen's drunken dereliction seemed insufficient to deny Washington the victory, for the British were already debating the wisdom of withdrawing to Chester. Sullivan and Wayne, meanwhile, were driving steadily ahead in the right center, though out of visual communication because of the thick smoke-mixed fog.

With visibility at about thirty yards, neither knew where the other was. Wayne, upon hearing the roar of artillery behind him at the Chew House, fancied Sullivan was in trouble back there. He wheeled around and blundered into Stephen's division, hurrying to overtake Greene. A friendly fire ensued, until both divisions broke, with their men fleeing in panic. Now the fabric of the battle plan was rapidly unraveling.

Sullivan's division, though still fighting, was running out of ammunition. Opposing him, General "No-flint" Grey, on the British left, hurled a brigade at Sullivan's right, while General "Castration" Grant simultaneously struck hard with two regiments at Sullivan's exposed left. Reeling from attacks on their front and flanks, mistaking the sound of gunfire at the Chew House to mean that the enemy was also in their rear, Sullivan's heretofore gallant soldiers began to waver. Their panic was complete when a light horseman rode into their midst shouting that they were surrounded. They broke. Not all at once. At first squads, then companies and battalions, finally en masse. Greene now had no support on either flank, and the British and Hessians who had shattered Sullivan let his fleeing soldiers go while turning to strike at Greene, who had only Scott's and McDougall's brigades with his own division to oppose them, until Muhlenberg, still pursuing an enemy a thousand yards off, turned and made a fighting return to his command.

Now Major General James Agnew's division joined with Grey and Grant to destroy the Americans. But for the skill and tenacity of Greene, the Americans might have perished. Marched out and fought out, they still made a splendid fighting withdrawal, turning to strike back from fences, ditches, walls and houses, stubbornly delaying the oncoming enemy while Greene gradually

drew off all the guns.

The retreat became general when it became known the militia assigned to roll up Howe's flanks had not only arrived at their objective late, but had given such timorous battle that they were easily repulsed. Now Washington sought to stop his army's reward flow, "exposing himself to the hottest fire." But these beaten men could not be rallied. It was not their fault; they had fought well, but had been undone by the blunders of their leaders. And as they ran past their general, they held aloft their empty cartridge boxes as silent justification of their flight. They had fought until they had exhausted their ammunition. Meanwhile, Cornwallis had arrived from Philadelphia with three fresh battalions. Ordered by Howe to pursue – more likely, given the British chief's obvious relief at having escaped disaster, to make sure the Americans did not turn again – his lordship followed at a respectful distance. After eight miles, he halted.

Germantown had ended in a tragic reversal of fortunes of war.

British casualties were 70 killed and 420 wounded, while Americans lost 152 killed, 521 wounded and about 400 captured. Clearly a British victory, it was also the fifth time that Howe had failed to destroy Washington's army. Less than one month after losing one army at Brandywine, Washington was able to march with another right up to the brink of victory against the flower of Europe, led by one of the most skillful tacticians of the age.

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George Washington's War
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Washington by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, NY 2010

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2015

MNSAR 126TH ANNUAL MEETING



Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 10, 2015. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President Larry Wray Sisk. The colors were presented by the MNSAR Color Guard, following which President Sisk led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Chaplain Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

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Minnesota Society SAR
126th Annual Meeting

.....

SAR Magazine for Veteran Homes

.....

Remembering Page Whitmore

.....

2015 MNSAR, Minneapolis and
Saint Paul Chapter Officers

.....

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Charles Edward Boyles. Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris presented the annual Financial Report indicating total assets of \$5,036.12.

Eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters were sent to eleven area high schools to begin the program for 2015.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2014.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Hon. William R. Johnson. Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$19,631.59 as of 31 December 2014.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2014, and that a presentation was also made at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units to begin the 2015 program.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund-raising

projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100.00 to the Society.

Minnesota Society Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2014: 15 new members, one transfer in, five deaths, and one resignation, giving a net increase of ten. 2014 started at 191 and ended at 201. In addition we have six dual members. 2015 has started with two new members registered and one application just sent in. Jones reported on statistics regarding birthdates and registration dates. He also reported on a survey of state society dues, which showed that Minnesota has the second lowest dues of all the societies.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Compatriot Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, showing net assets of \$40,777.10 as of 31 December 2014. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust. Donations to principal during 2014 were \$3,037.00. The Trustees proposed that the 2014 interest of \$571.45 be used to pay the following donation items:

Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00, and the balance of \$476.45 to the MNSAR Color Guard. If any of the amounts vary, adjustment will be made to the Color Guard Fund donation.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriots John Sassaman and Stuart Markham reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating that they mailed packets to over 900 new Eagle Scouts in 2014 and have received nine entries for the contest thus far. Our Minnesota winner will be presented at the next meeting. Over the years Minnesota has had four national winners of the \$8,000.00 scholarship, as well as second and third place winners.

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. There are seven college units and twelve high school units. Letters have already been mailed to the Minnesota units to begin the 2015 program.

Other Business

The MNSAR had received two additional streamers for our flag from the National Society, recognizing the Orono Plaque project as well

as retention of members. Last June the MNSAR presented a marker, which was placed in the City Hall of Orono, honoring Chief Joseph Orono, for whom the City of Orono is named.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones auctioned off a 1981 Yorktown Medal, issued by the Bicentennial Commission. It was a proof quality bronze medallion. The winning bid of \$200.00 was made by Chaplain Swisher, and the sum will be added to the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones. Incoming Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapter Presidents as well as the new MNSAR President were presented with neck ribbons and emblems. Past president certificates and emblems were presented to the out-going presidents.

The Color Guard retired the colors and MNSAR President Sisk read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.



Color Guard Report

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard was organized in 2007 to provide a uniformed team to present colors at SAR and public events, to remind us of our heritage and to honor those from whom we are descended, plus a way to kindle the flame of patriotism.

The team began with three members and has grown to eight. Three and possibly four new members are in the process of selecting uniforms.

During 2014 the Guard has appeared at a presentation ceremony for the city of Orono, citizenship ceremonies in Saint Cloud, the Ramsey Happy Days parade, and, for the fifth consecutive year, participated in the Fourth of July C.A.R. flying pancake breakfast in Wayzata.

They plan to purchase a Cooperman Drum which is hand made in Vermont. That will allow them to better participate in local parades and larger gatherings.

You may view the MNSAR Color Guard Blog at <http://www.sarmncg.blogspot.com>. This blog provides news and information about the color guard as well as links to related organizations, information sources and sutlers.

For information about joining please contact pstheis36@mainstreetcom.com.

SAR Magazine for Veteran Homes

Compatriot Arthur Finnell would like to implement a program to deliver recently received SAR Magazines to Minnesota Veteran Homes. There are five in the state.

Finnell is looking for five MNSAR members to donate their SAR Magazine for this effort. Finnell will personally deliver magazines on a continuing basis to the local veteran homes and mail them to out state addresses.

If you are interested you may email Arthur Finnell at papabearmn@gmail.com. His mailing address is:

Arthur Finnell
7501 West 101st Street, #204
Bloomington, MN 55438

Known War of 1812 Veterans Buried in Minnesota

Compiled by Arthur Finnell for the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Minnesota.

This book contains over 200 sketches of veterans and a number of photos of the veterans themselves as older men. Finnell has also included a sketch of the one Revolutionary War soldier buried in Minnesota. If you are interested in obtaining a copy please contact Arthur Finnell.

Remembering Page Gregory Whitmore

Long time member and past president of the MNSAR died of natural causes on Sunday December 14, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Arvella, two sons, Bruce and Clark, and two daughters, Laura and Diane. They have six grandchildren.

Page was a veteran of World War II. He was on active duty in the US Navy from 1943-1946 which included graduation from Bucknell University in the V-12 program, and post-war service as an electronics officer on the destroyer USS *Rupertus*, followed by many years as an Ensign in the Naval Reserve. He worked as an electrical engineer for General Electric Co. before joining 3M in 1961, where he became Director of Marketing Research. From 1970 to 1981 he worked as an independent consultant. He and Arvella lived in the same house overlooking Lake Nokomis for 50 years, before moving to Boutwells Landing in Oak Park Heights, Minnesota.

Page joined the MNSAR upon the recommendation of his cousin who was the President of the Virginia Society at the time. Page had many Revolutionary War ancestors. For years it seemed that at almost every meeting Page was presented with a new supplemental certificate.



He learned from his parents, family reunions and books that his Revolutionary War ancestors were generally Virginia plantation owners and often were kin to one another.

Page's favorite ancestor was Patrick Henry. He was called "Patrik" at his mother's ancestral home, "Banister Lodge." Among Patrick Henry papers owned by Page's immediate family is a letter in the frail handwriting of former President, John Adams, complaining that Virginia got too much credit compared to Massachusetts for its role leading to the American Revolution.

Page will be missed by his many friends in the Minnesota Society SAR.



2015 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. Presidents, Bodeau, McCallum and Sassaman are pictured on the front of this newsletter.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....John Charles Sassaman
 Vice President:Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Secretary-Treasurer:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:.....Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar: ..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon:George Floyd Smith, M.D.
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

Hon. David S. Bouschor	James Fredrick Foster
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.	COL Ronald E. McRoberts
Curtis John Oliver	Larry Wray Sisk
Marvin Eugene Stonecipher	Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Charles Edward Boyles	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	David Adriance Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	Marvin Lane Jansma
Hon. William Raymond Johnson	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
Stuart Henry Markham III	John David McCallum
Robert Arthur Minish	Christopher Willard Moberg
Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	Aaron Hale Printup
LTC Allen Dean Shepersky	Rehn Douglas Smith
Stephen Paul Thompson	Stephen John Vescelus

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2016:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2017:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2018:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Louisville, KY, in July 2015

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon, P.P.
 Alternate National Trustee MN:....Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D., P.P.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:.....Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Vice President:Aaron Hale Printup
 Secretary-Treasurer:John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Board of Managers:.....Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
 Rehn Douglas Smith
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER SAR

President.....John David McCallum
 Vice PresidentDennis Garvin Croonquist
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainThomas Christopher Harris
 Board of Managers.....Larry Wray Sisk
 John Charles Sassaman
 Charles Edward Boyles

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 14, 2015. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday October 7, 1777

BRITISH CAPTURE HUDSON RIVER FORTS

Kingston, New York – British General John Burgoyne, who's army is bogged down along the Hudson River near Saratoga, New York, has given up all hope of expecting anything from Sir William Howe. But still, he put his faith in relief from his friend Sir Henry Clinton – promising an expedition up the Hudson to capture Forts Clinton and Montgomery, the principle bastions commanding the waterway.

The British assault on the Highlands commenced yesterday, October 6, 1777. Sir Henry Clinton led a flotilla of forty ships with no fewer than 4,000 soldiers, mostly British regulars and Hessians. The American defenders consisted of about 600 men – mainly militia, half of whom were unarmed. General George Clinton, who is also the Governor of New York, assigned his older brother James command of Fort Clinton while across Popolopen Creek the governor himself commanded the weaker and incomplete Fort Montgomery. On Monday, the British attacked the governor's advance picket of thirty men. The guard volleyed and then retreated to Fort Clinton. The British then moved to attack the forts from the rear. Governor Clinton parried by sending 160 men with one artillery piece – all that he could spare – to block a pass through the Highlands. After a courageous fight in which the British suffered heavy casualties, the guard slowly retreated to the fort. Defending themselves in hand-to-hand combat with fixed bayonets, they disputed the ground inch by inch. Clinton sent another sixty men led by Captain John Lamb with a single cannon from Fort Montgomery to harass the enemy until reinforcements could arrive from General Israel Putnam on the opposite side of the Hudson

at Peekskill. Repeatedly the British were driven back by New York grapeshot and well-directed fire from the muskets, which made great havoc among them.

Defeated in their frontal assault, the British troops dispersed into the woods and encircled the small American force. Understanding the better part of valor, Lamb ordered the cannon spiked and retreated to the fort. Within minutes, at about 2:00 P.M., both forts were surrounded. Three hours later, a British officer – Lieutenant Colonel Mungo Campbell – appeared with a white flag to discuss terms of surrender. Governor Clinton sent Lieutenant Colonel Livingston to “know his business.” Campbell demanded that the Americans “surrender in five minutes, and thereby prevent the effusion of blood.” The brazen American emissary boldly responded “that he had no authority to treat with him,” unless the British “meant to surrender themselves prisoners of war,” in which case the Americans assured him they would be well treated. If the British did not intend to surrender, they could resume their attack on the forts because the New Yorkers were determined to defend them to the last extremity. Incensed at this audacity, the British resumed the attack and a most incessant fire kept up till night. Without reinforcements, Governor Clinton reported that, after eight or ten assaults, his 600 troops were overwhelmed “soon after dusk, when the enemy forced our lines and redoubts at both posts, and the garrisons were obliged to fight their way out, as many as could, as we were determined not to surrender, and many have escaped.” The escaping soldiers made their way “under cover of the Night, and by getting in the Mountains, have eluded the vigilance of their

pursuers, and are hourly coming in.”

Sir Henry Clinton lost about three hundred men and fifteen officers in capturing the forts. Many of these fatalities occurred during the last three to four hours of the attack when the musketry was incessant within forty yards, and less a greater part of the time. Lieutenant Colonel Campbell in command of the attack was killed in the first assault. Angered by their losses at Fort Montgomery, the Hessians gave no quarter as they bayoneted unarmed prisoners until stopped by some British officers. About half of the defenders were either captured or killed, Fort Montgomery suffering the more serious losses. Stephen Lush, the governor's aide was among the captured. In making his retreat from Fort Clinton, General James Clinton was stabbed with a bayonet, but survived when the weapon veered off the garrison's orderly book in his breeches pocket. He was able to make good his escape in the forest west of the fort even though the bayonet had wounded him in the groin. Governor Clinton himself barely avoided capture by descending a steep cliff and crossing the Hudson under cover of darkness. As he reached the shore with British troops searching for survivors, the governor hailed a boat that had just embarked. Recognizing the governor's voice, an officer ordered the boat to return. When Clinton saw that the boat was loaded to the gunwale, he ordered it off, determined to make his escape by swimming across the river. The officer in the boat refused to obey the order and offered his spot to



the governor, preferring to chance capture so that the governor could safely escape. Rather than continue the dispute that endangered all, both men got into the boat and ever so slowly the overloaded vessel made its way safely across the Hudson.

Sir Henry Clinton's attempt to notify General Burgoyne of his success was thwarted when his courier Daniel Taylor was captured by the Patriots. Because Taylor was seen to pop something into his mouth and swallow it, Governor Clinton ordered him dosed with an emetic that caused Taylor to throw up the object. It was a silver-covered musket ball, which, when opened, disclosed a message from Clinton which said: "*Nous y voici*, and nothing now between us and Gates. I sincerely hope this little success of ours may facilitate your operations." Taylor was then hung, and Burgoyne, not receiving this encouraging note, began to take counsel from his desperation.

Sources:

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by Robert Leckie,
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George Clinton, Yeoman
Politician of the New Republic
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Madison House Publishers, 1993

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Sir Henry Clinton lost about three hundred men and fifteen officers in capturing the forts. Many of these fatalities occurred during the last three to four hours of the attack when the musketry was incessant within forty yards, and less a greater part of the time. Lieutenant Colonel Campbell in command of the attack was killed in the first assault. Angered by their losses at Fort Montgomery, the Hessians gave no quarter as they bayoneted unarmed prisoners until stopped by some British officers. About half of the defenders were either captured or killed, Fort Montgomery suffering the more serious losses. Stephen Lush, the governor's aide was among the captured. In making his retreat from Fort Clinton, General James Clinton was stabbed with a bayonet, but survived when the weapon veered off the garrison's orderly book in his breeches pocket. He was able to make good his escape in the forest west of the fort even though the bayonet had wounded him in the groin. Governor Clinton himself barely avoided capture by descending a steep cliff and crossing the Hudson under cover of darkness. As he reached the shore with British troops searching for survivors, the governor hailed a boat that had just embarked. Recognizing the governor's voice, an officer ordered the boat to return. When Clinton saw that the boat was loaded to the gunwale, he ordered it off, determined to make his escape by swimming across the river. The officer in the boat refused to obey the order and offered his spot to



the governor, preferring to chance capture so that the governor could safely escape. Rather than continue the dispute that endangered all, both men got into the boat and ever so slowly the overloaded vessel made its way safely across the Hudson.

Sir Henry Clinton's attempt to notify General Burgoyne of his success was thwarted when his courier Daniel Taylor was captured by the Patriots. Because Taylor was seen to pop something into his mouth and swallow it, Governor Clinton ordered him dosed with an emetic that caused Taylor to throw up the object. It was a silver-covered musket ball, which, when opened, disclosed a message from Clinton which said: "*Nous y voici*, and nothing now between us and Gates. I sincerely hope this little success of ours may facilitate your operations." Taylor was then hung, and Burgoyne, not receiving this encouraging note, began to take counsel from his desperation.

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Harper Perennial, 1993

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Politician of the New Republic
by John P. Kaminski,
Madison House Publishers, 1993

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2015



2015 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

February 14, 2015 – Minneapolis, Minnesota – 34 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 54. Jax Café had prepared their signature Chicken Marinara served on a bed of penne pasta and green beans. A Squash Ravioli was served as the vegetarian alternative. The assemblage enjoyed a delightful apple crisp for dessert.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

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Annual George Washington
Observance and Luncheon

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The American Century and the
Renaissance of Heraldry in America

.....

Hutchinson Eagle Scout Honored

.....

MNSAR Liaison Committee

.....

New MNSAR Members

.....

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





THE AMERICAN CENTURY AND THE RENAISSANCE OF HERALDRY IN AMERICA



Secretary/Treasurer John Hallberg Jones introduced the speaker of the day, Duane Leroy Charles Mealman Galles. Galles is a Past President of Minnesota SAR and SR, past head of five national lineage societies, and an internationally recognized expert on heraldry. He brought a fascinating and scholarly address entitled, "The American Century and the Renaissance of Heraldry in America" He also had a display of the personal arms of Compatriots Jones and Swisher, as well as his own.

George Washington was very proud of his heraldry – indeed he had his coat of arms emblazoned on his horse-drawn carriage. Throughout his life Washington also had the family's heraldic crest applied to such diverse personal belongings as silverware, wax seals,

walking sticks, and interiors of buildings including Mount Vernon, where the coat of arms was featured in the middle of the wooden fireplace mantel in the front parlor. The coat of arms was even featured on the livery uniforms of Washington's servants, a common practice amongst wealthy planters prior to the Revolution. At one point Washington asked the Marquis de Lafayette to purchase a French-made silver tea set with the Washington coat of arms.

Galles explained that there was a great interest in heraldry during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and that it fell in disfavor around the time of Andrew Jackson's presidency.

In the 1890s heraldry enjoyed a resurgence coinciding with the United States becoming

a world power. During 1893 the United States overthrew the Queen of Hawaii. The ultimate goal of the revolutionaries was the annexation of the islands to the United States, which was finally accomplished in 1898. During the Spanish American War the United States was granted temporary American control of Cuba, and ceded indefinite colonial authority over Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippine islands from Spain. In 1903 the Province of Panama separated from Columbia. During 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt helped broker the Treaty of Portsmouth which formally ended the 1904-05 Russo-Japanese War. Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts. In a show of strength, President Roosevelt had the United States Navy battle fleet complete a fifteen-month circumnavigation of the globe. In 1917 the United States joined World War I by declaring war against Germany. The Washington Naval Treaty, also known as the Five-Power Treaty, was a treaty among the major nations that had won World War I, which by the terms of the treaty agreed to prevent an arms race by limiting naval construction.

At the time these events were taking place heraldry was becoming popular again. In 1898 University clubs were commissioning coat of arms as was the Army at West Point and

the Navy at Annapolis. Other colleges followed: Harvard, Yale, the College of Rhode Island and many others. On the ecclesiastical front the Catholic Church, in 1905, regulated the composition of the coat of arms through the Heraldry Commission. On the military front, President Woodrow Wilson, in 1919, directed the creation of the Heraldic Program Office under the War Department General Staff. Its purpose was to take responsibility for the coordination and approval of coats of arms and other insignia for Army organizations. By the end of World War II, its role expanded to include the other military services. In 1957 a law directed the Secretary of the Army to furnish heraldic services to all branches of the federal government.



Nettie Emma Mealman Heraldic Crest.



HUTCHINSON EAGLE SCOUT HONORED



Wyatt S. Hahn of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America is the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Wyatt, seen here receiving his certificate and medal from the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Chairman, John Sassaman and his assistant, Stuart Markham, was honored at the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe. His father and mother were also in attendance. Wyatt read his patriotic essay about the Battle of Point Pleasant which is presented in this newsletter.

Wyatt'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 an Eagle Scout from Missouri. The first and second runners-up represented the Iowa and Indiana Societies of the SAR.

The Battle of Point Pleasant, by Wyatt S. Hahn – 2014 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Whether you are a historian or just a history buff, you could argue that The Battle of Point Pleasant was the start of the Revolutionary War.

The Battle of Point Pleasant was fought on October 10, 1774, between Virginia militia and the Shawnee and Mingo Indian tribes. The battle was fought along the Ohio River near what is now Point Pleasant, Virginia. The Indians were led by Chief Cornstalk of the Shawnee and Colonel Andrew Lewis who commanded the Virginia militia. Chief Cornstalk was hoping to halt the militias advance into the Ohio Valley.

The 1768 Treaty of Fort Stanwit, which had been negotiated between Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia, and the Iroquois Indians, stated that the Indians would surrender their land south of the Ohio Valley. Chief Cornstalk and the

Shawnee tribes had not been involved in the treaty negotiations and therefore were not willing to give up their land. Sir William Johnson, who led the British Indian Department, isolated the Shawnee tribe from other tribes, therefore, when the war began, the Shawnee warriors had few allies to help fight Colonel Lewis and Dunmore's militia.

Colonel Andrew Lewis had approximately 1,000 men under his command. They were part of a two-pronged invasion of the Ohio Valley. Lewis was planning on meeting with Lord Dunmore's 1,000 men, who were heading west from Fort Pitt (Fort Dunmore), to enforce the treaty of Fort Stanwit. The two armies were planning to meet at the mouth of the Hocking River and together attack the Indian settlements.

Chief Cornstalk had men monitoring both armies from

the time of their departure. In order to prevent the armies from joining ranks, Cornstalk ordered his 900 warriors to attack Colonel Lewis' army before they awoke on the morning of Oct. 10. However, two militia, James Robinson, and Valentine Sevier, had left camp early to hunt. These two men ran into Shawnee forces and returned back to camp to report their findings. Upon hearing of this, Colonel Lewis ordered his brother, Charles Lewis, and William Flemming, to each take one column of 150 men and to engage the Shawnee. Musket fire smoke, along with fog, made it difficult to see, causing the battle to be mostly hand-to-hand fighting.

Another flanking movement above the battlefield, led by Lieutenant Isaac Shelby, who became the first governor of Kentucky, was mistaken by Chief Cornstalk as the arrival

of Lord Dunmore's men. The Shawnee retreated late in the afternoon with Governor Dunmore at Camp Charlotte. The treaty was formalized at Pittsburgh in 1775.

There is a long-standing belief that The Battle of Point Pleasant was the first battle of the Revolutionary War. Many historians disagree, but the battle had its own merits. Most importantly, it pacified the Ohio Valley for more than two years. Without the defeat of the Ohio tribes, the Revolutionary War would have been fought on two-fronts during its infancy. Without a doubt, a two-front war might have spelled defeat to the young independence movement.

Whether you believe The Battle of Point Pleasant was the start of the Revolutionary War or not, it was the most important and only battle ever fought in present West Virginia.



MNSAR LIAISON COMMITTEE

Craig W. Whiting, Chairman

A new committee has been established by the Minnesota Society for the purpose of establishing communications with the Minnesota DAR and the C.A.R. Our new MNSAR Liaison Committee has established contacts with these organizations and will be providing them with information on the MNSAR and the various projects and awards we are involved in. In addition, the committee is seeking from these organizations ways we may mutually participate or assist. Already the committee has sent one SAR representative to the Minnesota C.A.R. annual meeting and has received from the DAR an interest in inviting our Color Guard to participate in some of their activities. Current members of the committee are Stuart Markham – Eagle Scout Liaison, Aaron Printup – CAR Liaison, Paul Theisen – Color Guard Liaison, and Craig Whiting – DAR Liaison and Chairman. Volunteers are welcome. The committee reports to the MNSAR President, John Sassaman.

Adopt a Flag Program

Adopt A Flag is a program arising from the work of the new Liaison Committee. This program has been designed to assist the Minnesota Chapters of the Children of the American Revolution by providing flags and flag poles from the era of the Revolution. Members of the C.A.R. are allowed to “adopt” a particular flag, learn the history of that flag, care for it and carry it in C.A.R. events. Each C.A.R. member will be given the opportunity to make a presentation to the C.A.R. to tell the story of that flag. Perhaps such presentations may be made to the SAR and DAR as well. The flags will be the property of the C.A.R. and as members leave the C.A.R. they would present the flag to a remaining member.

The flags and poles are to be purchased by the MNSAR from contributions by SAR members. These are our sponsors and already we have two who have stepped up to the plate to buy flags for the program. To help with this effort please contact our C.A.R. Liaison Aaron Printup at ahprintup@aol.com

If there is a particular flag you wish to sponsor, you are welcome to choose it. If you wish to include with the flag a note stating the flag is in honor of your patriot ancestor, you are welcome to do so.

Flags cost from \$35 upwards and a pole from \$19 upwards.

Members of the C.A.R. often become members of the SAR or DAR.

NEW MNSAR MEMBERS



MNSAR President and Color Guard member, John Sassaman, poses with the McNamara family, Thomas and Charles McNamara are new Junior members of the MNSAR. Charles is President of the Minnesota Society C.A.R., Thomas is President of the Fort Snelling Society, C.A.R. and his mother, Mary, is the Senior President of the Fort Snelling Society.

MNSAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented new members with a certificate of membership and rosette: Charles Teske McNamara (President of the Minnesota Society C.A.R.) and Thomas Teske McNamara (President of the Fort Snelling Society C.A.R.). Their parents, Mary Teske McNamara and Charles McNamara, and their Grandmother, Mary Teske also attended the Washington Day Luncheon. These young men are the third generation in their family to be active in C.A.R. Also present was Bruce Mueller, a Minnesota SAR member residing in South Dakota, who is the Senior President of the Minnesota Society C.A.R.

A Supplemental Application certificate was presented to John Bradford Snell. He had persisted for several years in getting the documentation for this line.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
James Walton Mitchell	Garret Hanson
Charles Teske McNamara.....	Antionne Barras
Thomas Teske McNamara	Antionne Barras

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOT APPROVED:

John Bradford Snell	James Smith
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Next Meeting

The Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on October 3, 2015.

A great program is planned to explain DNA testing in common language.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday October 8, 1777

AMERICANS TRIUMPHANT AT BEMIS HEIGHTS

Stillwater, New York – Following the September 19th Battle of Freeman's Farm, General John Burgoyne had given up hope of expecting any help from Sir William Howe. He knew that General Gates was receiving reinforcements daily and soon might have as many as twelve thousand well-entrenched and well-supplied men opposing his own six thousand with less than a month's supply of food and almost no fodder for the horses, cut off from Canada and hearing no word from New York. In the meantime the British commander decided to fortify his position. Finally, on October sixth, Burgoyne decided to see if there was some way around the Americans. He ordered a reconnaissance in force for the next day: he himself would lead it. He simply had to get close enough to the Americans to see how powerful their defenses were, as if there were some doubt in his mind that he was hopelessly outnumbered. As his troop reconnoitered, they could also forage. If still no help came from Clinton by October 11, then they would retreat to Canada.

At ten o'clock the crisp autumn morning of October 7, 1777, Burgoyne rode out at the head of fifteen hundred slow-marching regulars and six hundred Canadian Loyalists. Behind them came artillery and empty wagons. The men had been fortified the night before by a double ration of beef and rum. They moved some two-thirds of a mile southwest of their entrenchments. Burgoyne ordered a halt on a long rise in a field of sere cornstalks. While

his soldiers formed a thousand-yard red line, servants and women camp followers went to work harvesting corn for the horses, heaving it into wagons. Burgoyne then ordered the column to re-form and move to higher ground ahead of him. By then word of his movement had been received at Gate's headquarters. Wilkinson rode out to Daniel Morgan on the left, carrying back the Old Wagoner's request to attack the British. At this request, Gates is said to have exclaimed once again: "Order on Morgan to begin the game." So freed, Morgan deployed his three hundred marksmen to work around the enemy right. As they did, General Poor's brigade moved toward Burgoyne's left.

At half-past two both formations were in position, taking losses from shells lobbed into them by enemy howitzers, but standing firm. Between them was a hill occupied by Major Dyce Acland's Grenadiers, firing high with musket and artillery. Then the grenadiers came yelling downhill in a bayonet charge. Poor's Yankees stood rock still until the redcoats were within range, then opened up in a shattering volley that struck them to the ground. Turning, the Grenadiers fled, abandoning their cannon and their commander, shot through both legs. A boy wandered onto the battlefield prepared to shoot the commander dead until Wilkinson rode up to intervene.

On the left Morgan's riflemen were engaged with Fraser's Canadian Loyalists, who had strayed from the main body. Passing through and



around them, these demons in fringed buckskin and coonskin caps struck savagely at the light infantry under young Lord Balcarres. As they turned to face the backwoodsmen, Dearborn's light infantry appeared on their left to join Morgan in a crossfire that forced the British to break and run. The brave Balcarres rode among his men trying to rally them, but to no avail. Now Balcarres saw that soon all would be lost and sent his aide Sir Francis Clerke forward to order a general withdrawal from the cornfield into the fortifications. But one of Morgan's sharpshooters shot Clerke from his horse, and he fell to the ground.

Back at Gates's headquarters two miles to the rear, Benedict Arnold fumed and fretted outside his tent, listening in agony to the battle that he was forbidden to join, anxiously watching the curling black smoke toward which he was enjoined not to ride. On October first Gates had relieved Arnold of his command. Insubordination or no he must take part in the kill he

had worked for so long on Lake Champlain, on the Kennebec, at Quebec, and in Valcour Bay. He leaped aboard his big black charger Warren, riding around the encampment "betraying great agitation and wrath." He saw Gates outside his tent nonchalantly receiving messages, saw Gates look up and see him—and then see through him—and that tore his restraint like a piece of paper. Shouting, "Victory or death!" He plunged his spurs into Warren's sides, hauling back on the reins to clear a sally port—and went galloping toward Morgan and Dearborn, his favorite fighters and their beloved men. Behind him Gates called for Major John Armstong to order Arnold back. But for some mysterious reason, though mounted on an extremely fast horse, Armstrong did not overtake Arnold.

Following a wagon trail winding through tall trees, Arnold began rounding up stragglers, drawing his sword and pointing it toward the enemy. At the edge of a clearing he found some of Learned's men drink-

ing at a brook and washing the black powder stains from their faces. “Come on, brave boys, come on!” he shouted, leaping the stream to lead them up a hill toward the Hessians. But as the Germans opened fire, Arnold turned in the saddle to find himself alone. Riding back he reformed the Americans and led them uphill again, and this time it was the Hessians who fled—sprinting through the cornfield and hurdling the bodies strewn throughout it. Wilkinson, who appeared just then, described the cornfield: “In a square space of ten or fifteen yards lay eighteen grenadiers in the agonies of death and three officers propped up against the stumps of trees, mortally wounded, bleeding and almost senseless.”

Arnold next rode toward Morgan, directing his men opposite Fraser. The Loyalists were fighting savagely while Fraser rode up and down on a big, steel-gray mare, shouting at his men, forming them in a new line. Arnold pointed to him and yelled to Morgan: “That man on the gray horse is a host in himself, and must be disposed of!” The Old Wagoner nodded, and called for Tim Murphy, a legendary marksman and veteran Indian fighter. “That gallant officer is General Fraser,” he said, pointing to him. “I admire him, but it is necessary that he should die—do your duty!” Murphy climbed a tree and lifted his double-barreled rifle.

His first shot creased the crupper of Fraser’s horse. The second parted his horse’s mane, and Fraser’s aide urged him to take cover. But the brave Highlander shook his head. “My duty forbids me to fly from danger,” he said, just before Murphy’s third shot tore into his stomach, mortally wounding him. An aide took the reins and led him off the battlefield.

Now Burgoyne, with bullet holes in his collar and coat, led a retreat through a sally port into his encampment, telling Lieutenant Anbury: “Sir, you must defend this post to the very last man.” Anbury’s reply was drowned out by the blasting of British cannon firing at an American column approaching the British right. Obviously the jubilant rebels planned to attack the British position. Remnants of Fraser’s light infantry also hurried through the sally port, taking position with about two hundred Hessians manning Breyman’s redoubt in front of the main British fort.

Now Benedict Arnold galloped over the battlefield like a mad wraith, so exhilarated that at one point his waving sword accidentally stuck a rifleman on the head, but did him no harm. Coming upon one formation of troops, he shouted: “What regiment is this?”

“Colonel Latimer’s sir.”

“Ah, my old Norwich and New London friends. God bless you! I am glad to see you. Now come on, boys! If the day

is long enough, we’ll have them all in hell before night!”

Spurring his black charger again, he rode out of the forest and into Freeman’s Meadow, finding a narrow path through the enemy’s abatis outside the British forward trenches that had been left there for British patrols. Galloping through it, he led his cheering men toward Breyman’s redoubt. Racing its length, he passed like an avenging angel through the shot and shell flying forth from both armies, his own head and shoulders visible to the men of both sides, but not to the men following him. Coming to Breyman’s, he yelled for his men to follow him around the position and into its rear through a sally port. They followed, many falling under the fire poured down upon them from the Hessians on the walls. Inside Colonel Breyman slashed wildly with his sword at his panicking soldiers, before falling to the ground dying, believed to have been shot by his own men. Now German musket balls pierced Warren’s side, and the stricken horse fell kicking and screaming, throwing Arnold clear. Arnold jumped erect with drawn sword, just as a wounded Hessian rolled over and fired at him. Arnold went down. His men lunged at the German with their bayonets. “Don’t hurt him!” Arnold yelled. “He’s a fine fellow. He only did his duty.”

Morgan, Dearborn and

other officers rushed toward Arnold, but he waved them away, shouting encouragement to his men firing American rifles and captured British cannon to beat back the last fierce enemy counterattack. And that was the last gasp of the Battle of Bemis Heights.

Benedict Arnold’s triumphant troops made a litter out of ridgepoles and tent cloth to carry their idolized leader gently back to the American camp. Here as he lay gasping in agony, Major Armstrong at last overtook him and ordered him to return to this quarters lest he do something rash. A gasp—something akin to a laugh—broke from Arnold’s twisted lips. Dearborn asked, “Where are you hit?”

“In the same leg,” [wounded at Quebec] Arnold whispered hoarsely. “I wish it had been my heart.”

Burgoyne’s gamble had cost him another five hundred men, half of them captured. The American loss was significantly lower.

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Benedict Arnold, Patriot and Traitor
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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.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2015



NINTH ANNUAL C.A.R. PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

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

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Ninth Annual C.A.R.
Pancake Breakfast
2015 MNSAR Medals and
Awards Programs

Remembering
John Alley Dougherty

Independence Day MNSAR
Color Guard Activity

Liaison Committee Update

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





2015 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS



Flag Certificates

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

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

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

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

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

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

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

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

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

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

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

MNSAR Award Organizer Sought

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

REMEMBERING JOHN ALLEY DOUGHERTY

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

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

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

NOTICE

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

Next Meeting

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



2015 INDEPENDENCE DAY MNSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY



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

– by Dennis Croonquist

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

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

LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE

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

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

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

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

... *American Eagle continued*

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

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by Robert Leckie,
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by John C. Fredriksen

The American Heritage
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Co., Inc.
New York

MNSAR Color Guard Blog

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

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Saturday October 18, 1777

BRITISH SURRENDER AN ENTIRE ARMY

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

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

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

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

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

“I am amazed at you!” Gen-



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

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

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

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

continued inside...

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2015



Annual Constitution Day Luncheon

Minneapolis, MN – Thirty-nine members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon on October 10. The total attendance was 65. Jax Café had prepared their marvelous Encrusted Walleye Pike, with a Squash Ravioli as the vegetarian alternative. Key Lime Pie topped off the meal.

As always, the color-guard led off the festivities by presenting the colors. New Members were welcomed: Robert Andrew Bodeau, Kevin Everett Sullivan, and Robert W.G.H. Allison. Each was presented their certificate of membership and a lapel rosette. In addition, Compatriot Allison was presented the War Service Medal.

INSIDE THE MNSAR SALUTE...

Annual Constitution Day Luncheon
 Dianne Plunkett Latham, MNDAR
 Lineage Research Co-Chair,
 Addressed the MNSAR
 American Eagle
 MNSAR Color Guard Activity
 Remembering Three Members
 Minnesota Society C.A.R. Report
 MNSAR Membership Report

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





DNA TESTING TO PROVE LINEAGE

Diane Plunkett Latham Explained DNA in Easy to Understand Terms

Dianne Plunkett Latham presented a fascinating program on DNA Testing To Prove Lineage. Latham is the MNDAR Lineage Research Co-Chair, Registrar and Past Regent of the Monument Chapter DAR.

Latham used a Powerpoint presentation and began her oration with definitions. Deoxyribonucleic acid or **DNA** is a molecule that contains the instructions an organism needs to develop, live and reproduce. These instructions are found inside every cell, and are passed down from parents to their children. A **genome** is an organism's complete set of DNA, including all of its genes. Each genome contains all of the information needed to build and maintain that organism. In humans, a copy of the entire genome – more than 3 billion DNA base pairs – is contained in all cells that have a nucleus. **Autosomes** pertain to a chromosome that is not a sex chromosome. People normally have 22 pairs of autosomes in each cell, together with 2 sex chromosomes, X and Y in a male and X and X in a female.

The DNA test kit usually consists of a cheek swab a saliva collection tube, and a prepaid return mailer. After returning your sample your DNA is processed at a lab.

Latham recommended FamilyTreeDNA.com as having the largest commercial database, helpful software and management tools, free publications and webinars. She said the **Patrilineal** (Y-DNA) test is the best test available for genealogy research. The Y chromosome is passed almost

unchanged from father to son. Prices vary based on the number of marker matches desired – 37, 67 or 111 marker matches are available. Y-DNA tests can be used to test your direct paternal lineage – your father, your father's father, your father's father's father, etc. Along this direct paternal line, Y-DNA can be used to verify whether two individuals are descendants from the same distant paternal ancestor, as well as potentially find connections to others who are linked to your paternal lineage.

The **Matrilineal** DNA, referred to as mitochondrial DNA or mtDNA, is passed down from mothers to their sons and daughters. It is only carried through the female line, however, so while a son inherits his mother's mtDNA, he does not pass it down to his own children. It does mean, however, that both men and women can have their mtDNA tested. It is used to determine where your maternal ancestors came from and how they migrated throughout the world.

Latham recommended the book "Seven Daughters of Eve." by Bryan Sykes. Using mtDNA, researchers have traced European populations back to seven "daughters of Eve":

Daughters	% Modern Europe
Ursula.....	11%
Xenia.....	6%
Helena.....	46%
Velda.....	5%
Tara.....	9%
Katrine.....	6%
Jasmine.....	17%

Autosomal DNA tests can be used to search for relative

connections along any branch of your family tree. Your autosomal DNA, contains random bits of DNA from your great-grandparents, great-great grandparents, and so on. Close relatives will share large fragments of DNA from a common ancestor. Connections arising from more distant relatives will result in smaller fragments of shared DNA. The smaller the fragment of shared autosomal DNA, generally the further back the connection in your family tree.

The average amount of autosomal DNA shared with a relative decreases with each successive generation. Percentages are also approximate – for example a sibling may share anywhere from 47–52% of their DNA in common.

- 50% (parents and siblings)
- 25% (grandparents, aunts/uncles, half-siblings)
- 12.5% (first cousins)
- 6.25% (first cousins, once removed)
- 3.125 (second cousins, first cousins twice removed)
- 0.781% (third cousins)
- 0.195% (fourth cousins)

Latham went on to explain why she had DNA testing done. One anecdote involved her Plunkett line. Her family history had her possibly being related to St. Oliver Plunkett who was the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. She learned through her "autosomal fishing trip" that she was not descended from Plunkett but from McGuire. Looking at an ancient map of Ireland she learned that the McGuire clan and Plunkett clan were near neighbors.



Somewhere along her line an illegitimate child was born. Through autosomal testing one can learn an unrelated identical surname, false paternity or adoption in their family background.

DNA test results may be used in the SAR application process as one piece of supporting evidence in a "preponderance of evidence" case, or as one of the additional pieces of evidence when the applicant is relying on a record copy of an old DAR application, or other lineage society. An applicant's DNA test results must show a match for at least 36 of 37, or 65 of 67, genetic markers on the Y-chromosome with another male who has an accepted, documented paper trail back to the patriot ancestor. The DAR's DNA policy is even more restrictive.

Latham ended her presentation with "There is no end in sight!" After the luncheon closed, many MNSAR members lingered and asked questions of her.



MNSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY

Ramsey Happy Days Festival



Ramsey, MN – The MNSAR Color Guard formed jointly with the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment led the annual City of Ramsey Happy Days Parade held on Saturday, September 12, 2015. This was the second year the combined guard has been invited to lead the parade and the crowd cheered and welcomed them.

The Color Guard was awarded “Peoples Choice” award by the judges.

Photo compliments of Theresa Hyde

Replica Drum



Three years ago the MNSAR Color Guard made the decision to bite the bullet and purchase a top of the line period rope tension drum. It is hand made in Bellows Falls, Vermont by Cooperman Drum. Cooperman craftsman have honed their skills of selecting trees in the local forests for their unique tone qualities and bending characteristics, as well as the craft of sawing the logs and steam-bending the lumber.

The drum is the property of the Minnesota SAR/SR. Our new drum will stand the test of time and be a tribute to our societies.

Steven James Hyde is the MNSAR Color Guard drummer.

Brown Bess Presented to the MNSAR

Geoffrey Markham read a description of his father’s ancestor’s service and presented a Revolutionary War era Musket of the kind used by their ancestor as a gift to the Color Guard from his father, Stuart Henry Markham III. Stuart Markham is an active member of the MNSAR Color Guard but could not attend the Constitution Day Luncheon due to recent surgery.



The text of Markham’s remarks are presented below:

In April of 1775 35-year-old Barzillai Markham answered the call to arms and joined the Lexington Alarm as a Sergeant. In July of that year he was promoted to the rank of Ensign, 5th Co. 8th Connecticut Regiment. Because of ill health he resigned his commission on 7 Oct. 1775 and was honorably discharged from the army.

Barzillai was born 14 Nov. 1740 in Enfield Connecticut and died at the age of 84 on 1 June 1824 in Essex, New York. One hundred and ten years before, his great great grandfather, Deacon Daniel Markham escaped to the shores of Cambridge Massachusetts to escape the tyranny of the king of England in 1665 to practice his religion and become a freeman.

It is with honor that I donate this working replica of a 1768 Second Pattern “Bess” flintlock musket to the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution, the Minnesota SAR Color Guard and to the memory of Barzillai Markham as a living memorial and teaching tool of the men of the Revolutionary War. The men who died or lived in that conflict, whether their actions great or small, have impacted everyone who is here today and I salute them. May their memory always be kept alive and cherished.

– Stuart Markham

An engraving establishing ownership to the MNSAR and a reference of the dedication to Barzillai Markham will be added to the musket.

2016 MNSAR Meeting Schedule

Upcoming meetings will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, January 9, 2016 – SAR Annual Meeting – Members only
- Saturday, February 13, 2016 – SAR-SR Washington Day Luncheon
- Saturday, October 1, 2016 – SAR-SR Constitution Day Luncheon

All of the meetings will be held at Jax Cafe.



Remembering Three Members

MNSAR member, Bill B. Thomas, 89, of Red Wing, died Friday, April 24, 2015 at his home. He was born on April 13, 1926 in Plainview, Texas. He enjoyed choral singing, especially church choirs, Red Wing Singers and the Silvertones and also doing genealogy research of his family. He was a devoted family man and a good friend.

Stuart Henry Markham III, 70, of Plymouth, MN passed away on Thursday, October 15, 2015. He was to be present at the recently held Constitution Day Luncheon but had to undergo emergency surgery the day before the meeting. His son, Geoffrey, presented a Revolutionary War era Musket of the kind used by their ancestor as a gift to the MNSAR Color Guard on his father's behalf. Stuart was born on January 18, 1945. Markham was very active in the MNSAR in the short time he was a member.

Gary Monroe Printup, 69, of Crystal Bay, MN died on Sunday, October 18, 2015. He had been a member of the MNSAR since 2011. Gary was born on December 27, 1946. His son Aaron is an active member of the MNSAR.

Minnesota Society C.A.R. Report



Bruce Mueller, Senior President of the Minnesota Society C.A.R., brought greetings and spoke of the several ways the MNSAR can be involved with their group. He provided The Minnesota Northstar, the Minnesota Society's newsletter for anyone who was interested. He also explained ways one can help the Minnesota Society C.A.R. such as attending meetings, becoming a leader, participating in service activities, providing financial support, subscribing to state and local newsletters and the national magazine (available at www.NSCAR.org). One can promote the C.A.R. by wearing their apparel and pins, and encouraging family, friends and neighbors to attend C.A.R. activities and joining the C.A.R.

Mueller pointed out that the Great Plains Regional Meeting will be held in Minnesota on July 20-21, 2016. The location is yet to be determined. He encourages the MNSAR members to attend the event or volunteer to help. You can contact Bruce Mueller at MinnesotaCAR@gmail.com.

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT Membership Changes Since Spring 2015

New Members were welcomed during the Constitution Day Luncheon: Robert Andrew Bodeau, Kevin Everett Sullivan, and Robert W.G.H. Allison. Each was presented their certificate of membership and a lapel rosette. In addition, Compatriot Allison was presented the War Service Medal. Membership certificates will be mailed to those new members not in attendance: Delbert Schoeberl, Gunnar Bowman, John Bowman, Marshall Rinek, Michael Moses, James Brown, John Brown, Maxwell Mengershauser, and Nicholas Peterson. A Supplemental Application Certificate was presented to John Sassaman. Additional Supplemental certificates have been mailed to Christopher Moberg for three Supplemental Applications. David Foster has had 9 approved Supplemental Applications in recent months, and has asked to receive the certificates during the next meeting.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Robert Andrew Bodeau	William Trowbridge
Delbert Walter Schoeberl.....	George Walters
Gunnar Worthington Bowman.....	Otis Ensign
John James Bowman	Otis Ensign
Marshall Ayers Rinek	Henry Revis
Kevin Everett Sullivan	Edward Anderson
Michael David Moses.....	Joseph Dunbar
Robert W.G.H. Allison.....	David Gwin
James Harlow Brown	Charles Lansdale
John Max Brown	Charles Lansdale
Maxwell D. Mengershauser	Hezekiah Barrett
Nicholas John Petersen.....	James Denison

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS APPROVED:

Christopher W. Moberg	John Chew
John Charles Sassaman.....	John Bacher
Christopher W. Moberg	Samuel Whipple
David Adriance Foster	John Burch Sr.
David Adriance Foster	John Burch Jr.
David Adriance Foster	Rem Adriance
David Adriance Foster	Uriah Mitchell
David Adriance Foster	Martin DeForest
Christopher W. Moberg	Robert Gilmore
David Adriance Foster	Isaac Foster Jr.
David Adriance Foster	William Horn Jr.
David Adriance Foster	Rudolphus Swartwout
David Adriance Foster	Theodorus VanWyck Jr.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday October 23, 1777

AMERICANS ROUT HESSIANS AT FORT MERCER

Billingsport, New Jersey – Yesterday, Hessian Colonel, von Donop, to save his honor, attacked Fort Mercer with panache but without artillery, suffering a resounding defeat in one of the most striking American victories of the war, minor though it may have been.

Sir William Howe was determined to reduce the American forts on the Delaware River below Philadelphia. They blocked his supply line over the water route that was both easier to traverse and to defend, compelling him to adopt the landward route that was open both to attack and to the difficulty of movement created by storms, especially in winter.

The forts had been built under the expert supervision of the French engineer, the Chevalier du Plessis – one of the few, foreign volunteers commissioned by the foreigner-fawning Congress who proved to be of value in the Revolutionary War. Plessis had constructed an interlocking system based upon two forts – Mifflin and Mercer – and supported by lesser fortifications at the village of Billingsport on the New Jersey shore plus two small adjacent isles in the river known as Billings Island.



Fort Mifflin was on Mud Island, close to the mouth of the Schuylkill River. It was heavily fortified, as was Fort Mercer, slightly higher upriver at Red Bank in New Jersey. Plessis's defensive system relied heavily on the use of *cheveaux-de-frise*, that is, "iron horses," which were constructed of a long horizontal baulk of timber or an iron barrel to which iron spikes five or six feet long, sharpened at either end, were affixed. Used in water, they were towed to a channel and then sunk with loads of stones, so that their spikes were not visible above water. A ship sailing into one would founder on it. On land they were used to block narrow passes or breaches, most often against cavalry. Galley's and floating batteries, under Commander John Ha-

zelwood, also supported, the forts' defenses, and beyond Mercer's *cheveaux-de-frise* were the frigate, *Delaware*, 28 guns; *Province*, 18; thirteen galleys each with one 18-pounder; seventeen fire-ships; and numerous fire rafts loaded with powder and dry brush. Compared to the leviathans commanded by Lord Richard Howe; these naval defenses were puny, indeed, but they represented much of the strength of the fledgling United States Navy, especially their precious cannon. Without foundries of their own, the Americans had been heavily, dependent on either captured ordnance or the light field pieces provided by Beaumarchais.

About four hundred men of two Rhode Island regiments held Fort Mercer under the command of Colonel

Christopher Greene, a cousin of Nathanael's, a "stout arid strong" man, good-humored, beloved of his soldiers. Greene had distinguished himself at Bunker Hill, and again at Quebec. Against him came Colonel, Carl Emil Kurt von Donop, who had commanded the chain of Hessian posts in New Jersey when Rall was overwhelmed at Trenton by Washington. In Donop's mind that unfortunate raid was a stain upon his reputation, and to remove it, he requested that Howe grant him the honor of attacking Mercer. It was done, and Donop collected a force of about two thousand Hessians, among them grenadiers and *chasseurs* both mounted and dismounted, together with eight field pieces and two British howitzers. Donop asked for

more artillery, a request that Howe denied with the remark that if Donop thought that his Germans could not take the fort, then a British force would. Stung, Donop told the aide who brought the message; "Tell your general that the Germans are not afraid to face death." To his officers, he said: "Either the fort will soon be called Fort Donop, or I shall have fallen." Some of the Hessian chief's resentment of Howe's gratuitous insult was dissipated, however, after Howe sent a British formation across the Delaware to seize the unfinished fort at Billingsport, thus making Donop's approach to Mercer easier.

Inside that fort, meanwhile, Plessis advised Greene to withdraw from his outer defenses to concentrate inside a five-sided redoubt at the center of the works. Greene agreed, but decided not to do so until the enemy appeared, perhaps because this would give the appearance of a retreat. Meanwhile, inspired by a dispatch from Washington reminding him that if he held out, Howe would have to evacuate Philadelphia, he raised his flag on a high hickory tree inside his lines.

The flag was visible on October 22 to Colonel von Donop as he led his superior force through the woods that ended four hundred yards

short of the fort. Hoping to capture the position by summons, he sent an officer forward under a flag of truce and preceded by a drummer boy "as insolent as his officer." Donop's message declared: "The King of England commands his rebellious subjects to lay down their arms, and they are warned that if they wait until the battle, no quarter will be granted."

Greene rejected the demand with scorn.

Meanwhile, Donop lost more time by his methodical preparation for the assault, so that it was four o'clock in the afternoon before the oboes blew and the Hessian lines moved forward. That meant only an hour of daylight remaining in which to take the fort. Nevertheless, Donop exhorted his officers to fight like Germans, watching proudly as they dismounted with drawn swords and led his men forward, marching in parade-ground formation over the intervening four hundred yards and following sappers carrying fascines to bridge the ditches of the enemy's outer works.

At this point, Greene ordered his withdrawal. Seeing the Americans back-pedaling, assuming that they were fleeing, the jubilant Hessians shouted, "*Vittoria!* – and rushed forward, throwing their hats into the air. Reaching the abatis outside the redoubt, they were halted by

its sharpened branches, and as they gathered there in bunches, a dreadful fire broke from the unseen Yankees. Greene had instructed his men to fire low and aim at the broad white belts of the enemy's uniforms, and they did so with devastating effect. The sight of so many comrades down unnerved Donop's men, and many turned to flee. Brought back by officers beating them with the flat of their swords, they still milled about among the abatis branches they sought to cut with their bayonets – and many more fell.

Retiring and regrouping for a second assault, Donop's men were struck by a savage flanking fire from the American galleys and floating batteries on the river. In this onslaught Donop fell mortally wounded by a musket ball in the stomach. Twenty-two of his officers, including all the battalion commanders, were either killed or wounded – and with this, the entire attacking force turned and fled, leaving almost a third of their number, almost seven hundred men, either killed, wounded or captured. American casualties were fourteen killed and twenty-three wounded. Two British



warships, *Augusta* and *Merrill*, also were lost. So complete was the Hessian rout that Donop's men dumped their cannon into the river so that they could use the gun carriages to take off their wounded.

When the dying "No-Quarter" Donop was carried into the fort, American soldiers began baiting him, one of them exclaiming: "Well, is it settled that no quarter is to be given?" To this, the Hessian commander replied: "I am, in your hands. You can avenge yourselves." Plessis appeared to rebuke the Americans, prompting Donop to ask who he was. "A French officer," the engineer replied, whereupon Donop, with the eighteenth-century soldier's fondness for the studied line, remarked: "I am content. I die in the arms of honor itself."

Sources:

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2016



MNSAR 127TH ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 9, 2016. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President John Charles Sassaman. President Sassaman led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued inside...

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Minnesota Society SAR
127th Annual Meeting

Remembering Two MNSAR
Members / Army Veterans

2016 MNSAR, Minneapolis and
Saint Paul Chapter Officers

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Geoffrey R. Bodeau, M.D. A Motion was made to forego reading the Minutes of the 10 January 2015 meeting as they were summarized in the Minnesota Society newsletter. Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$20,854.95 as of 31 December 2015.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2015, and that we also had a presentation at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2016 program.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund-raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100.00 to the Society.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President John McCallum. Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris presented the annual Financial Report indicating total assets of \$5,252.93.

Compatriot Harris reported that eleven area high schools participated in the

Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters have been mailed to eleven area high schools to begin the program for 2016.

Four Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2015. A fifth recipient refused the award and ordered Mr. McCallum off the premises. President McCallum had no idea why and was completely shocked by their actions.

MNSAR Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2015: Fifteen new members, six deaths, and four resignations, giving a net increase of five. 2015 started at 196 and ended at 201. In addition we have six dual members. There are still ten unpaid for 2016 at this time. When the report is filed on 25 January any unpaid will be dropped, so the above numbers may change slightly. Jones reported on statistics regarding birthdates and registration dates. He also reported on Life Members, citing our 48 living Life Members are probably the highest percentage of any state society. He brought greetings from Donald Steinkraus who is 94 years old – our oldest member by age.

John Newell Rouner was presented his certificate of membership and rosette. David Foster was presented certificates for nine supplementals and John Sassaman for one supplemental. Others will be presented at our meeting on 13 February.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Compatriot Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, showing net assets of \$41,609.38 as of 31 December 2015. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust. Donations to Principal during 2015 were \$2,903.00. The Principal as of 31 December 2015 totaled \$32,544.33. The Trustees proposed that the 2015 interest of \$444.69 be used to pay the following donation items: Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00, and the balance of \$349.69 to the MNSAR Color Guard. If any of the amounts vary, adjustment will be made to the Color Guard Fund donation.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Sassaman reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating disappointment that only four Eagle Scouts entered the contest and that none of the entries were worthy of being

forwarded as a State winner. They will receive certificates of participation and patches. It is hoped that there can be better cooperation with Scout leaders next year.

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. Letters have already been mailed to the eleven JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota.

Duane L.C.M. Galles presented a proposal to award a Silver Good Citizenship Medal to the President of the Minnesota Orchestra, the President of Minnesota Public Radio, and Marilyn Carlson Nelson, to honor the citizenship effort of the Minnesota Orchestra's trip to Havana, Cuba, for a concert now that relations have been formalized once again. The concert was broadcast nationwide by Minnesota Public Radio, and had been financed by Marilyn Carlson Nelson.

Minnesota Color Guard

Compatriot Steven Hyde presented a fine report on the MNSAR Color Guard. He displayed our new drum stating it is hand made in Bellows Falls, Vermont by Cooperman Drum. Cooperman craftsman have honed their skills of selecting trees in the local forests for their unique tone qualities and



TWO MNSAR MEMBERS / ARMY VETERANS PASS AWAY

New Brighton, MN – William A. Harris, Sr. of Minneapolis died Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015 at the age of 96.

William Arthur Harris was born on Dec. 3, 1918 to Arthur and Minnie (Martell) Harris in Minneapolis. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the 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. He married Harriet May Dustin during a six day leave on December 5, 1942 prior to being shipped overseas. He first met his 2-year-

old son when he came home from the war. Bill and Harriet had four sons. Bill made his career as a piano technician at McGinnis and then at Schmidt Music. He was one of their most requested technicians. After Bill retired he would still tune pianos upon request – something he did until he was well into his eighties. Bill was a charter member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Northeast Minneapolis. Bill enjoyed woodworking and the family cabin in northern Minnesota.

New Ulm, MN – Larry D. Johnson, 68, of New Ulm died Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2015 at the Abbott-Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis after a long, well-fought battle with illness as a result of exposure to Agent Orange.

Larry Dale Johnson was born on May 22, 1947 in New Ulm to LaRay and Ruth (Reece) Johnson. He served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam. On May 27, 1967 he was united in mar-

riage to Kathleen Schugel at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm. Larry worked in the gun department at Scheel's in Mankato and Retzlaff's in New Ulm and later was sales manager with Prudential in Mankato for 13 years. Larry enjoyed guns, sports shooting, hunting, reading, martial arts (Black Belt), auctions, garage sales, and selling "Junk" on eBay. He was a member of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, Izaak Walton League, Ducks Unlimited, Junior Pioneers, Friends of New Ulm Public Library, VFW, DAV, American Legion, National Rifle Association, Smithsonian Institute, and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend and will be missed by many. "Forever Our Hero."

bending characteristics, as well as the craft of sawing the logs and steam-bending the lumber.

The MNSAR Color Guard once again participated in the Fourth of July C.A.R. flying pancake breakfast in Wayzata, and for the second consecutive year, led the annual City of Ramsey Happy Days Parade. The Color Guard was awarded "Peoples Choice" award by the judges.

Compatriot Sassaman, who is also in the Color Guard, was present at Larry Johnson's funeral for which the family was very grateful.

A blog provides news and information about the color guard as well as links to related organizations, information sources and sutlers. Go to <http://www.sarmnccg.blogspot.com>. For information about joining please contact psstheis36@mainstreet.com.

Other Business

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones. MNSAR President Sassaman read the SAR Recessional, and with no further business appearing, declared the annual meeting of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter and the Saint Paul Chapter SAR adjourned.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday November 21, 1777

DELAWARE RIVER FORTS ABANDONED

Billingsport, New Jersey – Yesterday, American forces under Colonel Christopher Greene were ordered to abandon Fort Mercer, New Jersey, effectively surrendering control of the Delaware River to the British. Commodore John Hazelwood also burned the American warships *Andrew Doria*, *Hornet*, and *Wasp*, while state vessels *Sachem*, *Washington*, *Independence*, and *Mosquito* in Delaware Bay were likewise torched to prevent their capture. British control of the Delaware River is now secure, although Forts Mifflin and Mercer have delayed General William Howe for two months.

It is also possible that the defeat last month of the Hessian Colonel von Donop to take Fort Mercer shocked the lethargic Sir William Howe into activity, of which, though not endeared he was eminently, capable, for his preparations to take Fort Mifflin on Mud Island were masterful. On November 10 he opened his bombardment of the fort with four 32-pounders from *Somerset*, six 24-pounders on *Eagle* and one, 13-inch mortar, together with the artillery he had already emplaced at the mouth of the Schuylkill. The effect might have been dev-

astating but for the presence of another capable French engineer, Francois Louis Teissedre de Fleury. He was a descendant of one of the noblest families in France, and though hardly more than a boy so skillful an engineer and so brave a soldier that he quickly won the respect and affection of those Americans with whom he served. If his requests for fascines and palisades to shore up the fort's defenses, as well as for a heavy chain to be stretched to the Pennsylvania shore to block the passage of British warships, had been granted, it is likely that Mifflin might have held out indefinitely. Fleury himself was undaunted declaring: "The fire of the enemy will never take the fort. It may kill us men but this is the fortune of war. And all their bullets will never render them masters of the island if we have courage enough to remain on it."

The ragged, footsore, hungry Yankee Doodles did indeed possess that courage, among them Joseph Martin, who wrote: "Here I endured hardships sufficient to kill half a dozen horses." He and his comrades had not "a scrap of either shoes or stockings to my feet or legs." And again: "The British batteries in the course of the day would nearly level



our works, and we were, like the beaver, obliged to repair our dams in the night. As the American defenders made repairs, a soldier would stand guard, and when he saw the muzzle flash of a British artillery piece, he would call out – 'A shot!' – upon which everyone endeavored to take care of himself, yet they would ever and anon, in spite of all our precautions, cut up some of us."

"Ever and anon" those casualties were mounting, and when the dead and wounded were evacuated at night to Fort Mercer, replacements were sent into Mifflin bringing timber, tools and other supplies for repairs. But Fleury, acting as a commander in the absence of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Smith, was still determined to hold out. "Our ruins will serve us as breast-works," he

said. Unfortunately, the tenacity and courage of Fleury and Mifflin's four hundred defenders – most of them Marylanders – had already been undone by the treachery of an engineer named Robert White. He was a secret Tory, and when he was placed in charge of sinking a line of *cheveaux-de-frise* to bar the river to British warships, he deliberately left open a passage on the Pennsylvania side. Again and again enemy warships penetrated this line of sunken obstacles to come within pistol shot of Mifflin. Even so, the stubbornness of the rebel defenders had begun to discourage Howe's troops, until White deserted to them and, by his reports of the Americans' dire circumstances, persuaded them to renew the assault.

Washington, meanwhile, in his eagerness to hold the

Delaware forts, was all for reinforcing and resupplying the garrison. Remote from the battle itself, however, he had to depend upon the reports of staff officers, who advised evacuation. It was done, and among those survivors taken off Mud Island was the badly wounded, Fleury, as well as Joseph Martin, who, having been ordered to destroy hogsheads of rum, had the American private soldier's customary good sense to fill his own canteen with the delectable liquid before he closed his eyes and swung his ax.

The fall of Fort Mifflin seriously crippled the defense of Fort Mercer, not so much materially as morally. Mercer's defenses, were still in the hands of the capable French engineer, du Plessis, and Nathanael Greene had been sent by Washington to take command in New Jersey and to repel Lord Cornwallis in Howe's Second attempt to take the fort. Moreover, whereas Fort Mifflin had been undone chiefly by the fire from shore batteries on Province Island and the treachery of Robert White, Fort Mercer had been reinforced – including a command led by the Marquis de Lafayette, recovering from his Brandywine wound – and still possessed the gunboats and galleys that sunk Her Majesties ships *Augusta* and *Merlin*. Yet when Cornwallis landed at Billingsport on the New Jersey shore on November 18 with two thousand men, the fort was abandoned without a shot and all its buildings and supplies

were burned.

Why remains a mystery, except the possibility – if not actually the probability – that its defenders were demoralized and Greene did not dare rely upon them for another siege. They had behaved splendidly in beating back Donop's force, but then, night after night they had witnessed the arrival of casualties from Fort Mifflin, and day after day they had seen that fortress taken apart shot by shot. The prospect of having to face the same sort of bombardment, heavier now that the British could sail upriver unimpeded as far as Red Bank, may have sapped their moral strength. Indeed, Yankee Doodle never could match the disciplined stoicism of the European professional under artillery fire, and so the Delaware forts fell to the British, enabling Sir William Howe to hold on to Philadelphia while George Washington, with a heavy heart, marched his weary veterans off to find a suitable location to winter his troops.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac, 2006
by John C. Fredriksen
George Washington's War
by Robert Leckie,
Harper Perennial, 1993

Delaware River Forts Time Line

Oct. 15 – The siege of Fort Mifflin intensifies as four British batteries, assisted by the warships HMS *Roebuck* and *Vigilant*, pound the American position at close range.

Oct. 21 – Colonel Karl von Donop ferries 1,800 Hessians across the Delaware River and encamps at Haddonfield, NJ, prior to assaulting Fort Mercer.

Oct. 22 – At Fort Mercer von Donop issues a surrender ultimatum to Colonel Christopher Greene, who refuses. Von Donop then decides to attack immediately rather than await support from British vessels in the Delaware River. Von Donop falls, fatally wounded, and is abandoned on the ground. The attack then sputters out, with the Hessians losing 371 casualties and 120 prisoners. The Americans suffer 14 dead and 23 injured.

Oct. 23 – Admiral Richard Howe orders part of his fleet to engage the American garrison at Fort Mifflin. Six warships then penetrate the cheveaux-de-frise blocking the river, but good shooting by armed galleys under Commodore John Hazelwood drives the ship of the line HMS *Merlin*, 64 guns, and the 18-gun HMS *Augusta* aground at Hog Island. Both are grounded and burned.

Nov. 10 – The British, taking advantage of a new channel opened up by the Delaware River, bring up heavy cannon, warships, and floating batteries to pound Fort Mifflin, PA, into submission.

Nov. 14 – Under cover of darkness, General James M. Varnum ferries 450 men from his brigade into fort Mifflin to bolster the garrison. American artillery facing Province Island also manage to sink a British floating battery on the Delaware River.

Nov. 15 – Fort Mifflin, having sustained five days of intense shelling, is further pummeled by the warships HMS *Somerset*, *Iris*, *Roebuck*, *Pearl* and *Liverpool*. At one point, frigates HMS *Vigilant* and *Fury* slip to within 20 yards of the fort and add to the conflagration. With 350 cannon throwing out 1,000 heavy balls every 20 minutes, Major Simeon Thayer finally abandons his muddy charge. The American sustain 300 casualties, and the survivors flee under cover of darkness. British losses are seven killed and five wounded.

Nov. 18 – General Charles Cornwallis crosses the Delaware River at Billingsport and pushes on with 2,000 men against Fort Mercer. General Nathanael Greene is charged with holding onto that beleaguered post for as long as possible. However, before he can issue orders to that effect General James M. Varnum and Colonel Christopher Greene jointly decide to abandon the post against impossible odds.

Nov. 20 – American forces are ordered to abandon Fort Mercer, NJ, effectively surrendering control of the Delaware River to the British.



2016 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve another year for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter or the Saint Paul Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....John Charles Sassaman
 Vice President:Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:.....Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar:..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:.....Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon:George Floyd Smith, M.D.
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

Hon. David S. Bouschor	James Fredrick Foster
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.	COL Ronald E. McRoberts
Curtis John Oliver	Larry Wray Sisk
Marvin Eugene Stonecipher	Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Charles Edward Boyles	Tracy Ashley Crocker
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	David Adriance Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	Marvin Lane Jansma
Hon. William Raymond Johnson	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
John David McCallum	Robert Arthur Minish
Christopher Willard Moberg	Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
Aaron Hale Printup	LTC Allen Dean Shepersky
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen Paul Thompson
Stephen John Vescelus	One Open Position

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2017:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2018:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2019:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Boston, MA, in July 2016

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon, P.P.
 Alternate National Trustee MN:....Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D., P.P.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:.....Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Vice President:Aaron Hale Printup
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Board of Managers:.....Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
 Rehn Douglas Smith
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER SAR

President.....John David McCallum
 Vice PresidentDennis Garvin Croonquist
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainThomas Christopher Harris
 Board of Managers.....Larry Wray Sisk
 John Charles Sassaman
 Charles Edward Boyles

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 13, 2016. Our speaker will be COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, Ph.D. President MN SR and Past President MNSAR. His topic will be "Boston – Cradle of the Revolution" a fascinating study of the time line of events leading up to the American Revolution.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2016



2016 ANNUAL WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

February 13, 2016 – Minneapolis, Minnesota – 36 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 59. Jax Café had prepared their signature Pistachio Encrusted Chicken for the group, with a Squash Ravioli as the vegetarian alternative, and a delightful Macadamia Nut White Chocolate Mousse dessert.

Bruce Mueller, Senior State President of the MNCAR attended. He announced the upcoming MNCAR Meeting on March 5, to which all SAR members and friends are invited. The recent newsletter from MNCAR was at each place. LTC Frances Stachour, Past Regent of the MNDAR, who also attended, conveyed greetings.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Annual George Washington
Observance and Luncheon

Boston – Cradle of the Revolution

Roger Young and
ALLY People Solutions

Minnesota C.A.R. to Host
Great Plains Regional Conference

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





BOSTON – CRADLE OF THE REVOLUTION



COL Ronald E. McRoberts, Past President of Minnesota SAR and SR, brought a fascinating and scholarly address entitled, “*Boston – Cradle of the Revolution*”. He not only went through the history of that time and place, but added the military movements throughout the years preceding the Declaration of Independence.

McRoberts emphasized that the consequences of each event lead to tensions that precipitated the next event. The trajectory of which took on a life of its own.

It started with the French and Indian War, or as it was known in the rest of the world, the Seven Year’s War. Great Britain prevailed but as a consequence was very nearly bankrupt. The crown felt that her colonies should share in the expense so they

enacted the Stamp Act of 1765. The colonists didn’t object to paying their taxes, they objected to the manner of the tax – they preferred to know how much to collect and be allowed to decide how to raise it.

As a result the Sons of Liberty was organized and the Massachusetts Assembly called a joint meeting with the other colonies. There should be no taxation without representation!

Parliament responded by enacting the Townshend Duties of 1767. There was such resistance to these measures which resulted in riots that Great Britain sent troops to Boston. On March 5, 1770 a confrontation arose in front of the Custom’s House. The British troops fired on the crowd killing five colonists and wounding six others. Although most of the British

soldiers were acquitted of wrong doing American propaganda capitalized on the Boston Massacre.

In 1773 parliament passed the Tea Act, an attempt to rescue the cash-strapped British East India Company, forced into near-bankruptcy by colonial boycotts. This resulted in the Boston Tea Party where the Sons of Liberty, disguised as Indians, boarded the tea ships and dumped 342 chests of tea, valued at £10,000 into Boston Harbor.

In 1774 Parliament responded with the Cohersive Acts, known as the Intolerable Acts in America, which ended local self governance and closed Boston commerce. America responded to these measures by setting up their own government. The other colonies rallied around Massachusetts. The Americans raised militias and stockpiled arms and supplies.

On April 18, 1775 British General Thomas Gage ordered his elite flank-company force to seize the colonial arms cache at Concord, Massachusetts. Patriots Paul Revere and William Dawes were sent to Lexington to alert Samuel Adams and John Hancock. The following morning a gathering of 70 minutemen confronted the advance forces of the

British light infantry at Lexington. Shots rang out killing eight and wounding nine. The British marched to Concord where there was more bloodshed. As the British retreated toward Boston their march was continually intercepted by throngs of angry militiamen who raked the column with musket fire from behind walls, trees and all available cover. Of 1,800 British engaged they lost 73 killed and 201 wounded. The American militia assembled in Cambridge, Mass. and enforced a siege to the British confined in Boston.

McRoberts went on to describe the Battle of Bunker Hill, Washington taking command, and the incredible feat of Henry Knox transporting 44 cannon and 16 mortars from Fort Ticonderoga to American forces in Cambridge. Knox accomplished his remarkable trek of 300 miles in the dead of winter. McRoberts also described the fortification of Dorchester Heights using Knox’s artillery which resulted in Britain evacuating Boston on March 17, 1776.

He reiterated how the consequences of each event led to the other. At the beginning all the colonists wanted was to be treated like British citizens. Instead events lead to the formation of a new nation.



ROGER YOUNG AND ALLY PEOPLE SOLUTIONS

MNSAR member Roger Young started at ALLY People Solutions in 1972, when he was twenty-one years old. He is very outgoing, and people are attracted to his dynamic personality. Roger had a career in the restaurant business working sixteen years at two local restaurants – Chi Chi's and Taco Bell.

His supervisors often described Roger as a great ambassador because he knew every customer, visited with each, and made them feel important.

Roger is now retired and participates in retirement focused activities at ALLY. In particular he enjoys coming to the branch and hanging out with friends. ALLY participation is a strong family value in the Young family. His mother, Irene, became a Board member shortly after Roger joined ALLY and remained on the Board until her passing. Roger's brother, Allen, took up the torch and was a Board member for several years.

Relationships matter at ALLY and it has been very fortunate to have been a major part of Roger's life for 43 years and counting!

ALLY People Solutions, a St. Paul organization assists and advocates for people with developmental challenges. It began with a



dedicated group of parents who sought an alternative to institutional care for their children in the 1950s and has grown into a comprehensive program that partners with businesses, who hire participants for jobs in a competitive workplace.

"Roger Young" is reprinted by permission of the Ramsey County Historical Society and of ALLY People Solutions from "ALLY People Solutions: 50 Years of Service to Individuals and the Community," by Eileen R. McCormack, in Ramsey County History, 50:3 (Fall 2015): 11, copyright (c) 2015 by the Ramsey County Historical Society, St. Paul, Minn.

Minnesota C.A.R. to Host Great Plains Regional Meeting

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Great Plains Region, N.S.C.A.R. will be held June 20-21, 2016, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Suites Minneapolis Airport/Mall of America, in Bloomington, Minnesota.

The meeting will feature presentations on C.A.R. programs for 2016-2017 by members of the National Board, activities for members and adults, and fun for everyone who attends.

Make plans now to attend. Registration information will be posted in May on the National website www.NSCAR.org.

Help and donations are needed to make the regional meeting a success. Please contact Bruce Mueller, Senior State President, MinnesotaCAR@gmail.com.

NEXT MEETING

The MNSAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016. Watch for detailed information in the mail.

...continued from page 4

Barry's success won the admiration of friend and foe. Sir William Howe is said to have offered Captain Barry twenty thousand guineas and the command of a British frigate if he would desert the service of the United Colonies. The alleged answer of Barry is stated to have been: "Not the value and command of the whole British fleet can seduce me from the cause of my country."

Captain John Barry is widely credited as "The Father of the American Navy" and was appointed a captain in the Continental Navy on December 7, 1775. He was the first captain placed in command of a US warship commissioned for service under the Continental flag.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac
by John C. Fredriksen,
Facts on File, Inc. An
imprint of Infobase
Publishing, 2006

*The Story of Commodore
John Barry "Father of the
American Navy" by Martin
I.J. Griffin Historian of
the Society of the Friendly
Sons of St. Patrick of
Philadelphia, 1908*

<http://www.thenewamerican.com/culture/history/item/4774-john-barry-true-father-of-the-american-navy>

<https://broeder10.wordpress.com/2012/06/28/captain-nicholas-biddle-and-the-randolph/>

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday March 13, 1778



UNEVEN BATTLES OF THE FLEDGING CONTINENTAL NAVY

Barbados, West Indies – On March 7, 1778, Captain Nicholas Biddle, commanding the 32-gun frigate *Randolph*, encountered the much larger 64-gun HMS *Yarmouth* under Captain Nicholas Vincent.

Biddle was one of the first Captains in the Continental Navy and by February, 1777 had command of the *Randolph*. Biddle led a squadron of his own ship plus four smaller ships whose mission was to either destroy British ships on blockade duty and failing that raid British commerce.

The little squadron headed for the Caribbean where it was hoped they would find unsupported merchant vessels that they could take as prizes. Biddle sighted a sail and ordered the squadron to give chase, his own ship and largest of the squadron in the lead.

The *General Moultrie*, also a frigate but of only 20 guns and part of the squadron recognized too late that the sail sighted was the *Yarmouth*, a British Ship-of-the-Line mounting 64 guns!

Fighting it out with a Ship-of-the-Line was not part of Biddle's directive nor was it all that wise even if you included the *General Moultrie's* 20 guns. The weight of broadside from a Ship-of-the-Line compared to a frigate was simply too much.

Never-the-less Biddle opened fire on the *Yarmouth* and the Brit returned fire immediately. Although Biddle had trained his crew well and they were getting off 4-5 broadsides for every one of the *Yarmouth's*, the *Yarmouth's* meant more!

The *General Moultrie* also got off three broadsides at the *Yarmouth* but ceased to fire because the commanding officer thought he was hitting the *Randolph*. This says something about how close the *Randolph* and the *Yarmouth* were to one another.

Biddle was wounded and while being tended to by the surgeon the *Randolph* exploded, literally disintegrating, showering the *Yarmouth* with debris and killing all but four of the 305 on board – including Biddle.

The *General Moultrie* presumably headed for the hills and the rest of the American squadron would have not have come close enough to risk a broadside from *Yarmouth*. Therefore, no American ship was around to look for survivors and it was left to the *Yarmouth* who returned to the area four days later to find four Americans who had been blown clear by the explosion.

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Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – On March 7, 1778, Captain John Barry launched a daring mission – Barry with

twenty-seven men in five rowboats, made a midnight dash past the British guards on Philadelphia's riverfront. Rowing carefully with muffled oarlocks, at early day-break Barry's meager forces silently slid alongside two heavily-laden British transports. The British sailors were caught completely unawares – surprise is an admirable weapon. Barry led his men in swarming over the gunwales; at the sight of the determined Americans, the sailors fled the decks.

Barry had captured the *Mermaid* and the *Kitty*, transports from Rhode Island, laden with supplies for the British. He stripped the vessels and sent the supplies northward through New Jersey and burned the vessels. The *Alert*, a British schooner with eight four-pounders, twelve four-pound howitzers and thirty-three men properly equipped for an armed vessel, came in sight while Barry was engaged in the encounter with the supply vessels. Barry sent a flag to Captain Morse, of the *Alert*, demanding a surrender, promising that the officers would be allowed their private baggage, whereupon the *Alert* was "delivered up" to Captain Barry, who granted parole to the Captain to go to Philadelphia for a fortnight. "The schooner is a most excellent vessel for our purpose," wrote Cap-

tain Barry to General Washington two days later, when sending him a "cheese and a jar of pickled oysters" from the store of wines and luxuries intended for General Howe's table. He also sent a plan of New York "which may be of service," which he had taken from the *Alert*.

The "hero of the Delaware," with more bravery than weaponry, had captured three valuable ships, many supplies, one major, two captains, three lieutenants, ten soldiers and more than 100 armed sailors!

Writing Barry after receiving the supplies, General Washington stated, "I congratulate you on the success which has crowned your gallantry. My wish is that a suitable recompense may always attend your bravery."

Alexander Hamilton, writing to Governor Clinton, of New York, from Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge, on March 12, 1778, said: "We have nothing new in camp save that Captain Barry has destroyed, with a few gunboats, two large ships belonging to the enemy, laden with forage from Rhode Island. He also took an armed schooner which he has since been obliged to run ashore after a gallant defense. 'Tis said he has saved her cannon and stores – among the ordnance four brass howitzers."

continued inside...

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2016



MNSAR COLOR GUARD AT MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

Saint Paul, Minnesota – Minnesota Society SAR Color Guard members Paul, John, Steve and Craig presented the Colors at a wreath laying ceremony at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in St. Paul, Minnesota. Also participating in the event were members of the Knights of Columbus and the Park High School AFJROTC Color Guard and their advisor. The officiating officer was of the Military Order of the World Wars Fort Snelling Chapter.

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard participation was the result of a request by the Fort Snelling Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars and the Colonel William Covill Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument was built in 1903 and stands 53 feet high. Atop is a statue of a Civil War soldier, reportedly representing Josias King, the first Minnesota volunteer to serve in the Union Army.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Soldiers and Sailors Monument
Wreath Laying Ceremony

Independence Day MNSAR
Color Guard Activity

2016 MNSAR Medals and
Awards Programs

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MNSAR COLOR GUARD

Supporting the Wayzata Chapter, C.A.R.

MNSAR Color Guard Blog at <http://www.sarmnccg.blogspot.com>



Wayzata, Minnesota – The annual Fourth of July Flying Pancake Breakfast celebrating Independence and also honoring US military veterans was again held at the historic depot in Wayzata, on the shore of Lake Minnetonka. This is a major event each year for the Wayzata Chapter of the Minnesota Children of the American Revolution and it has grown in popularity over the years. This year over 1,600 people attended. Besides the breakfast there was face painting and living history. The Mayor of Wayzata presented honors to attending veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

Supporting the C.A.R. project were members of the Lake Minnetonka Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the 7th Pennsylvania re-enactment group and the Color Guard of the Minnesota Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The D.A.R. ladies wore dress of the era and played the parts of women who actively served in the revolution. The 7th PA, in authentic uniform, provided a tent and a display of equipment

common to the army. The MNSAR provided living history soldiers. All these supporting volunteers interacted with the guests throughout the day, telling their personal stories, explaining aspects of the army life and answering the many questions asked by adults and children. During the five hour event the uniformed members of the 7th PA and the SAR performed displays of the manual of arms and several times marched to the pier and fired volleys with their muskets.

The exposure to interested adults and children of this sampling of life and service in our quest for independence was warmly and excitedly absorbed. Especially exciting to the hosts and supporting organizations was the interest shown in the living history by children whom many, if not all, went away with a curiosity and interest to learn more about our American Revolution.

Color Guard members participating were Col. Paul Theisen, color bearers John Sassaman and John McCallum, guard Craig Whiting and drummer Steven Hyde.

2016 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in nearly all of the ROTC-JROTC units in the state. There are 7 college units and 12 high school units.

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following Compatriots for doing the presentations:

MAJ Geoffrey R. Bodeau, M.D., Dennis G. Croonquist, David A. Foster, Steven J. Hyde, Hon. William Johnson, John Hallberg Jones, Robert A. Minish, T. Truxtun Morrison, John C. Sassaman, LTC A. Dean Shepersky, and Marvin E. Stonecipher.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2016. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country.

In 2016 we awarded the medal in 23 area high schools and one Naval Sea Cadets squadron.

In all, it was a fine program once again.

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.



Flag Certificates

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

- Harley Automotive, Oakdale
- Honsa Family Funeral Home, St. Paul
- Metcalf Moving & Storage, St. Paul
- Thorsen Breidinger & Novak PA, No. St. Paul
- Truck Utilities Inc., St. Paul

The Saint Paul Chapter is grateful to its president, John McCallum for presenting the certificates.

Next Meeting

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 1, 2016. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday January 9, 1778

WASHINGTON'S ARMY WINTERS AT VALLEY FORGE

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – In December 1777 General William Howe eased into comfortable winter quarters in Philadelphia. For British officers warfare remains a seasonal business, and they see no reason to sacrifice unduly as cold winds blow. “Assemblies, concerts, comedies, clubs, and the like make us forget that there is any war, save that it is a capital joke,” says a Hessian captain, reflecting the overly confident attitude that prevails among British and Hessian officers after the Brandywine and Germantown victories.

George Washington struggled with the baffling question of where to house his vagabond, threadbare army during the frigid months ahead. The specter of a harsh winter was alarming: four thousand men lacked a single blanket. If Washington withdrew farther into Pennsylvania's interior, his army might be secure, but the area already teems with patriotic refugees from Philadelphia. Such a move would also allow Howe's men to scavenge the countryside outside Philadelphia and batten freely off local farms. Further complicating his decision was that he has to ensure the safety of two homeless legislatures, now stranded in exile: the Continental Congress in York and the Pennsylvania legislature in Lancaster.

Valley Forge lay at the junction of the Schuylkill River and Valley Creek. Actually, it is not a valley but high ground – a thickly wooded slope two miles

long overlooking the Schuylkill River. Another capable French engineer named Duportail had laid out the camp's fortifications so skillfully that Lieutenant General Charles Grey – the villainous “No-Flint” Grey – after a thorough reconnaissance reported that Valley Forge is virtually impregnable. The lines run from a promontory in the middle called Mount Joy to the Schuylkill on the left and Valley Creek on the right. Knox's artillery is emplaced on the high ground, while Washington's headquarters, with its blue flag with thirteen white stars, occupied the triangle formed by the junction of the river and the creek.

When Washington decided to march his army to this encampment about twenty miles from Philadelphia, many Patriots criticized him bitterly for failing to attack Howe in the Quaker City. The Pennsylvania Assembly, with the politicians' customary conviction that armies move on maps, rather than on earth, chided him so unjustly that for one of the few times in his career, he lost his temper and replied: “The gentlemen reprobate the going into winter quarters as if they thought the soldiers were made of sticks or stones. I can assure these gentlemen that it is a much easier and less distressing thing to draw remonstrances in a comfortable room, than to occupy a cold bleak hill, and sleep under frost and snow without clothes or blankets. However, although they seem to have



little feeling for the naked and distressed soldiers, I feel superabundantly for them, and from my soul I pity their miseries which it is neither in my power to relieve or prevent.”

In choosing Valley Forge, Washington rejected advice to winter farther from Philadelphia in comfortable quarters west of the Schuylkill at Lancaster, Reading or Allentown because it is his experience that armies in soft billets usually deteriorate. He had listened when the bellicose General Anthony Wayne argued that to winter far away might suggest to the enemy that the Continental Army is afraid. Moreover, Valley Forge was well chosen, for it protects a considerable area of rich country against British foraging, while covering Lancaster and Reading from an enemy offensive. Finally close enough to watch Howe, it is far enough away to guard against surprise. Of course, George Washington, having spent one trying winter striving to form an army in

Cambridge and another near-disastrous one from which his daring strokes at Trenton and Princeton rescued him, now expected that in this, his third winter, he would have the opportunity to preserve his exhausted force and mold it into a tough, professional army. Fully expecting to be armed, fed and clothed from the well-stocked bases at Lancaster and Reading, he had no way of knowing that at Valley Forge he was embarked upon one of the most miserable Winters of privation and pitiless suffering ever endured in the annals of modern arms.

Troops there go hungry because nearby farmers prefer to sell to the British in Philadelphia for hard cash, rather than for those worthless Continentals; because New York's grain surplus is diverted to New England civilians and the British soldiery in New York City; and because Connecticut farmers refuse to sell beef cattle at ceiling prices imposed by the state.

Soldiers go half-naked because merchants in Boston will not move governmental clothing off their shelves at anything less than profits of from 1,000 to 1,800 percent. In response to Washington's appeals for supplies, Congress passed the buck by authorizing him to commandeer them from the countryside. This he is reluctant to do among a people supposedly engaged in throwing off a tyrants chains, even though his army, after arriving at Valley Forge on December 19, "decreased two thousand from hardships and exposure in three weeks." Only 8,200 men are fit for duty.

Orders went out immediately to divide the men into parties of twelve to build their own huts. Because so many of Washington's soldiers are farm boys, they are familiar with axes and saws and fell to with enthusiasm – encouraged by their commander's offer of a prize of twelve dollars for the best-built and soonest-completed hut in each regiment. Because the British had burned the local sawmill, there was no lumber, but the ingenious Yankees cut and trimmed their own building material out of the timber growing on the wooded slopes, using mud or clay to fill the chinks between the logs.

The huts are sixteen feet long by fourteen feet wide and six and a half feet high. Into each corner are built tiered bunks. Washington had hoped to overcome the lack of boards for roofing by offering one hundred dollars for the best substitute, but with only sapling poles and a compound of straw and dirt available, the replacements leak like a sieve after a few hours of rain or during a thaw. There are fireplaces with chimneys of wood lined with clay, but with only green wood to burn in them, they smoke horribly. Split slabs of oak are

used for doors and oiled paper for windows. It was not long before this two-mile double row of wretched log huts became a veritable Misery Road. It was surgeon Albigeance Waldo of the Connecticut Line, an extremely dedicated and cultivated physician and a great favorite with the troops, who gives the best description of life inside of them, even for an officer:

"Poor food – hard lodging – cold weather – fatigue – nasty clothes – nasty cookery – vomit half the time – smoked out of my senses – Devil's in it – I can't endure it – why are we sent here to starve and freeze? What sweet felicities have I left at home. . . . Here all confusion – smoke and cold – hunger and filthiness – pox on my bad luck! Here comes a bowl of beef soup, full of burnt leaves and dirt, sickness enough to make a Hector spue – away with it boys! – I'll live like the chameleon upon air."

As early as December 23 – two days before Christmas – Washington reported ominously to Congress that there was so little food that a "dangerous mutiny" had only barely been averted. There was "not a single hoof of any kind to slaughter and not more than twenty-five barrels of flour." Each night from these filthy, verminous, leaking huts there issued the dolorous croaking cries: "No bread! No bread – no soldier! No meat! No meat – no soldier!" The common diet shared by both officers and men is a paste of flour and water, cooked upon hot stones called Firecake." Thus the sardonic plaint arise twice daily: "Firecake and water for breakfast! Water and firecake for supper!" Even water is scarce, for there are no springs on the high hills of Valley Forge. Water has to be carried up from Valley Creek

in buckets. Sullivan's men found some clams, but when he passed a group huddled around a stone boiling in a kettle and asked why they were doing it, he was told: "They say, strength in a stone, if you can get it out."

In their appearance the Continentals might have been wild and again it is Waldo who describes them: "Here comes a soldier, his bare feet are seen through his worn-out shoes, his legs nearly naked from the tattered remains of an only pair of stockings, his breeches not sufficient to cover his nakedness, his shirt hanging in strings, his hair dishevelled, his face meager. His whole appearance pictures a person forsaken and discouraged. He comes and cries with an air of wretchedness and despair: 'I am, sick, my feet lame, my legs are sore, my body covered with this tormenting itch' (an affliction common in the camp)."

Blood on the snow was their sign – and this was no exaggeration. Washington himself reported that the path of his army's march from Whitemarsh to Valley Forge could be traced by the splotches of red in the snow.

In such rags, and with blankets so scarce, many soldiers sit up all night beating themselves for warmth, rather than risk freezing to death. When the young Lafayette arrived in camp, he was horrified to see soldiers whose legs had frozen black being carried from their huts and piled on wagons taking them to hospitals that are often no better than charnel houses – there to have their limbs amputated. Nothing is feared more than the Continental Army hospital.

Daily, meanwhile, the cemetery carts, known as "meat wagons" rattle through the camp with creaking wheels. Each time a wagon halts be-

fore a hut, men of the graves detail leap down to fetch the body of a soldier who had either starved or frozen to death during the night. Eventually the meat wagons are piled high with carcasses. The dead men's skins were blackened and wrinkled, and their limbs no bigger than sticks. Half of them were naked, for the ghouls of the graves detail always careful to strip the bodies of anything useful, especially shoes which, if they didn't fit, could be boiled and eaten. Sometimes the graves ghouls fought the dead men's comrades for possession of articles of clothing. To deal daily with ungainly death has also made the ghouls less than gentle or respectful, heaping the corpses onto the wagons helter-skelter and with calloused indifference. Some of the dead lay on their backs with sightless eyes upturned, their mouths drawn back from shriveled black gums. Other lay with their faces resting on the bare behinds of others or with their heads hanging over the side of the carts, their tongues lolling from their mouths. Should a cart rolling downhill go jolting over a bump, it might dislodge not only a carcass but one or two bloated rats that had been feeding there.

Such, then, is the ordeal of Valley Forge, a place of pain and horror, a hellish place like a painting by Hieronymus Bosch, to which George Washington had marched his men in high hopes of forging anew another army.

Sources:

Washington,
by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, 2010

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2016



Annual Constitution Day Luncheon

Minneapolis, MN – Thirty-nine members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 59. Jax Café had prepared their marvelous Encrusted Walleye Pike, with a Squash Ravioli as the vegetarian alternative. Macadamia-topped white chocolate mousse topped off the meal.

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...

.....
 Annual Constitution Day Luncheon

 Join or Die: Political Cartoon of the
 Revolutionary War Era

 Awards From NSSAR

 MNSAR Membership Report

 American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





JOIN OR DIE: POLITICAL CARTOONS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR ERA



Marguerite Ragnow Ph.D., curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota presented a very interesting program entitled “Join or Die” – *Political Cartoons of the Revolutionary War Era*”.

Ragnow showed slides of political cartoons that are a part of the James Ford Bell Library and explained the historical significance of them. The sizes of the political cartoons varied. Many were published as broadsides and others were the size of modern post cards, depending on the publication that printed them. Often times other publications would reproduce them in their newspapers or handbills. The illustrations

were complicated and symbolic of their historical significance. The illustrations could be understood by illiterate readers but also usually contained editorial text.

The first American political cartoon was drawn by Benjamin Franklin and was first published in his *Pennsylvania Gazette* on May 9, 1754. The cartoon appeared along with Franklin’s editorial about the “disunited state” of the colonies, and helped make his point about the importance of colonial unity. This cartoon was used in the French and Indian War to symbolize that the colonies needed to join together with the Kingdom of Great Britain to defeat the French and Indians.

“The Colonies Reduced” was published in 1767 by Benjamin Franklin as a warning of the consequences of the newly imposed Stamp Act. The Stamp Act of 1765 established a tax on all printed documents. This was the first time Parliament implemented an internal tax on the colonists and it passed

without the colonist’s consent. The woman represents Britain and her dismembered body parts are different colonies (Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and New England). This cartoon was used to explain Franklin’s concern that the Stamp Act would sever the connections between the colonies and the “mother land” if it was not repealed. Britannia’s torso is leaning against a globe which, according to Franklin, portrayed the “placement that depicted her inability to dominate world politics should she dismember herself” from her colonies.

Ragnow shared a french cartoon published around the time the second Continental Congress took place. The cartoon shows America, represented by a man with feathered cap, cutting the horns off a cow, representing British commerce, which is being milked by a Dutchman. Two men, representing France and Spain, are standing toward the rear of the cow holding bowls of milk. In the foreground, on

the right, lies the British lion asleep, a small dog is standing on the lion’s back urinating. A distraught Englishman is standing to the left of the lion. In the background, across an expanse of water, is a city labeled “Philadelphia,” to the left of the city is a ship, the *Eagle*, laid-up in dry dock, Admiral Howe is sitting at a table, out of sight of his flag ship, with his brother General Howe, a keg is on the ground to the left and wine bottles on the ground to the right of the table.

Ragnow shared and explained many other cartoons of the eighteenth century.

The “Join or Die” cartoon was resurrected during the Stamp Act Congress. On July 7, 1774 Paul Revere altered the cartoon to fit the masthead of the *Massachusetts Spy*. It was even re-purposed by both the Union and Confederate armies during the U.S. Civil War. University of Minnesota students also used it for their publications. Ragnow stated that Benjamin Franklin would be proud.



Join or Die



Her Colonies Reduced



Cow Commerce Cartoon



AWARDS FROM NSSAR

John Hallberg Jones for the Liberty Medal Cluster and John Sassaman for the Liberty Medal with two Clusters. The Liberty Medal is awarded for being a top-line signer on new member applications. Other awards presented to the MNSAR were:

- Furlong Award for participation in flag presentations.
- King Eagle Scout Award for participation in the Eagle Scout program with an entry.
- The Houston Chapter Award for the highest percentage of new members that were transfers from C.A.R.
- Partners in Patriotism Award in support of veterans groups.

Both the Minneapolis Chapter and St. Paul Chapter also received the Partners in Patriotism Award.

MNSAR Minuteman Medal Recipients Over the Years

The NSSAR's Highest Award

- 1954 Stanley Sloane Gilliam
- 1954 COL James Burdick Ladd
- 1958 Rev. Mott Randolph Sawyer
- 1959 John Gilman Ballord
- 1973 Rev. Joseph Benjamin Head
- 1985 John Hallberg Jones
- 1991 Duane LeRoy Charles Mealman Galles

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT



New Members were welcomed during the Constitution Day Luncheon: Nicholas Petersen, Jacob Waters, Robert Oliver Neese, David Dunton Hawley, and David Leslie Treadway. Each was presented their certificate of membership and a lapel rosette. Membership certificates will be mailed to those new members not in attendance: Brian Lee Moore, Thor James Erickson, Harold James Malcolm, and Richard Eugene Smith. Four Supplemental Application Certificates were presented to David Foster for approved supplemental applications. Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones presented Life Member pins to Charles Boyles and David Foster. Life Member Pins will also be mailed to James Mellinger and Douglas Mellinger.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Nicholas John Petersen.....	James Denison
Jacob Waters	Philemon Warfield
Brian Lee Moore.....	William Gragg, Jr.
Robert Oliver Neese	Joshua Anderson
Thor James Erickson	Geoge Doty
David Dunton Hawley	Joseph Hawley
David Leslie Treadway.....	Jonathan Treadway
Harold James Malcolm.....	James Loveland
Richard Eugene Smith.....	Timothy Smith

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS APPROVED:

David Adriance Foster.....	John Lansing
	Isaac Foster, Sr.
	Gregorius Storm
	Christopher Yates

...continued from page 4

The episode showed that, whatever Washington's demerits as a military man, he was a consummate political infighter. With command of his tongue and temper, he had the supreme temperament for leadership compared to his scheming rivals. It was perhaps less his military skills than his character that eclipsed all competitors. Washington was dignified, circumspect, and upright, whereas his enemies seemed petty and skulking.

Sources:

Valiant Ambition
by Nathaniel Philbrick,
Viking, 2016

Washington,
by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, 2010

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

2017 MNSAR Meeting Schedule

Upcoming meetings will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, January 14, 2017 – SAR Annual Meeting – Members only.
- Saturday, February 18, 2017 – SAR Washington Day Luncheon. COL Ronald McRoberts will speak about the Battle of Saratoga.

Both of the meetings will be held at Jax Cafe.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday, February 25, 1778

WASHINGTON EXPOSES PLOT AGAINST HIS LEADERSHIP

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – Probably the most humiliating and infuriating ordeal that General Washington had to endure as commander in chief of the American War for Independence was the so-called Conway Cabal, a loose coalition – or rather, coalescing – of disaffected generals and discontented members of Congress who were at first united in their determination to dismiss Washington and then, later, in their hopes of replacing him with General Horatio Gates.

The juxtaposition of Gates's victory at Saratoga and Washington's defeats at Brandywine and Germantown crystallized in congressional discontent with the latter's leadership. The discontent crested in October when Washington got wind of the rumored promotion to major general of Brigadier Thomas Conway.

Washington was incensed to learn about Conway's impending promotion, especially since he would be jumped over twenty more senior brigadiers. On October 20 Richard Henry Lee assured Washington that Conway would never be bumped up to major general, but Lee, a secret critic of Washington himself, disclosed something else disturbing: Congress intended to overhaul the Board of War, switching it from a legislative committee to an executive agency, staffed by general officers who would supervise the military. This news came as a revelation to Washington, who could only regard it as a

powerful rebuke. On December 13, Congress made Thomas Conway Washington's inspector general with the rank of major general.

Amid an atmosphere of rampant suspicion, Washington received fresh proof that enemies in high places conspired against him. General Gates had assigned his aide James Wilkinson to carry the news of Saratoga to Congress. En route to Congress, this indiscreet young man paused in Reading, Pennsylvania, where he met with an aide to Lord Sterling and regaled him with stories of Gates's savage comments about Washington's actions at Brandywine Creek. He also showed him an inflammatory line that General Conway had written to General Gates, indicting Washington's leadership. "Heaven has been determined to save your country," Conway wrote, "or a weak general and bad counselors would have ruined it." Lord Stirling, loyal to Washington, passed along this offensive comment to him remarking that "such wicked duplicity of conduct I shall always think it my duty to detect." Washington was stunned to see the remark, which suggested blatant collusion between the two generals to blacken his name.

By the time Washington received Stirling's letter, he was already familiar with what he described as Conway's "intriguing disposition." In meeting the threat Washington decided to respond quickly to Stirling's revelation. He had

received Stirling's letter on the evening of November 4. By the following morning Washington had penned Conway this note:

A letter which I received last night contained the following paragraph: "In a letter from General Conway to General Gates he says – 'Heaven has determined to save your country; or a weak general and bad counselors would have ruined it.'" I am, sir, your humble servant, George Washington.

Forceful yet understated, the note gave no indication as to who was Washington's source. Given the purposeful ambiguity of the language, it was easy to jump to the conclusion that he possessed an actual copy of Conway's letter. Washington had put the Conway Cabal on notice that he knew exactly what they were up to.

There was no immediate reply, but when Conway did come to Valley Forge, Washington made plain his detestation of him, receiving him, coldly but correctly, with proper respect for his rank and duties. There after Conway's letters to Washington were characterized by a singular insolence and mendacity, all of which the commander in chief received with contemptuous silence.

But the false step for which Washington had been patiently waiting had been made: Wilkinson's babbling at Reading, Pennsylvania had set the flimsy stage on which the timid

Gates would venture on tiptoe, finger to his lips, and thus bring the entire conspiracy crashing down. Conway, to his credit, was a bold conniver, if not an admirable one. His eventual reply to Washington's damning note was an attempt to bluff his way through. "Why, my dear general," he protested in his haughty, superior style, "there is not a subaltern in Europe who would not fill his letters with complaints about his chief, without exciting the least suspicion. Must such an odious and tyrannical inquisition begin in this country?" Washington gave no answer, for his fish and already been hooked.

On February 19 Gates raised the white flag, solemnly proclaiming in a letter to Washington "that I am of no faction" and pleading with him not to "spend another moment upon this subject." By that point a virtual squadron of Washington loyalists were making it known to anyone they suspected of infidelity to His Excellency that treachery would not be tolerated.

It had been a difficult and trying four months, but Washington was now confident that "the machinations of this junto will recoil upon their own heads." Five days after receiving Gate's plea to end the controversy, he replied that he was willing to bury their past differences "in silence, and as far as future events will permit, oblivion."

continued inside...

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2017



MNSAR 128TH ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 14, 2017. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President John Charles Sassaman. President Sassaman led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones gave the Invocation. President Sassaman was invested with the new travelling Society President's Emblem which was later transferred to the newly-installed MNSAR president, Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D. (pictured). The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business. *Continued Inside...*

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Minnesota Society SAR
 128th Annual Meeting

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American Eagle

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Now and Then –
 Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D. /
 William Trowbridge

.....

2017 MNSAR, Minneapolis and
 Saint Paul Chapter Officers

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Geoffrey R. Bodeau, M.D. A motion was made to forego reading the Minutes of the 9 January 2016 meeting as they were summarized in the Minnesota Society newsletter. Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$21,279.92 as of 31 December 2016.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 23 area high schools in 2016, and that we also had a presentation at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2017 program. The Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets had their ceremony one week ago on January seventh. The Minneapolis Chapter was represented by Steven Hyde.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund-raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100.00 to the Society.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President John McCallum. Past President Thomas Harris presented the Annual Financial Report on behalf of Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris who was traveling and could not attend the meeting. The Saint Paul Chapter has assets totaling \$5,704.01.

Compatriot Harris reported that eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters have been mailed to twelve area high schools to begin the program for 2017.

President McCallum reported that five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2016.

MNSAR Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2016: Fourteen new members, one reinstated, two deaths, one transferred out and four resignations, giving a net increase of seven. 2016 started at 193 and ended at 201. In addition we have six dual members. Jones reported on statistics regarding birthdates and registration dates. He also reported on life members, citing our 56 living life members, probably the highest percentage of any state society.

Andrew Robert George was presented his certificate of membership and rosette. Robert Allison and Jacob Waters were presented certificates for supplemental applications.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Compatriot Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, showing net assets of \$42,609.55 as of 31 December 2016. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust. Donations to principal

during 2016 were \$3,490.00. The principal as of 31 December 2016 totaled \$36,034.33. The Trustees proposed that the 2016 interest of \$436.60 be used to pay the following donation items: Minnesota Genealogical Society \$35.00, Taylor Grave Flowers \$20.00, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$40.00, James Ford Bell Library \$50.00 and the balance of \$291.60 to the MNSAR Color Guard.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Sassaman reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating disappointment that only two Eagle Scouts entered the contest. Looking ahead the MNSAR Eagle Scout Committee will communicate with the Scout Leaders instead of the Scouts themselves. Upon motion passed, for the next year the MNSAR will offer a prize of \$200.00 for the first place winner and \$100.00 for second place, in addition to the standard certificate and patch.

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. Letters have already been mailed to the twelve JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota.

Minnesota Color Guard

Compatriot Paul Theisen presented the report on the MNSAR Color Guard. Secretary-Treasurer Jones read a fine letter from Adrienne Morrison on behalf of the Lake Minnetonka C.A.R. Chapter, commending our MNSAR Color Guard for their excellent work.

New Business

Many items were discussed in the hopes of getting greater participation by the members. Jones explained the delegate process for the NSSAR National Congress, indicating that Minnesota has seven delegates, but has not had more than two or three at any National Congress in perhaps 40 years. Ideas had been advanced regarding a digital newsletter, recruitment committee, Ladies Auxiliary, C.A.R. and D.A.R. Liaison Committee, Hospitality Committee, and additional participation in the ROTC Program and Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Programs. There was a discussion of proxy voting with the general consensus that it was not needed. Additional ideas of mentoring new members, a "big brother" approach, particularly asking new members, as their interest may be the strongest right at the beginning of their membership.

2017 Officers

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones. MNSAR Past President Sassaman transferred the Society President's Emblem to the newly-installed MNSAR President, Geoffrey Robert Bodeau.

President Bodeau read the SAR Recessional, the colors were retired and Bodeau declared the combined meetings of the Chapters and the Minnesota Society adjourned.



NOW & THEN

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D. has been a member of the MNSAR since 1993. He was just elected president of the MNSAR. Geoffrey's mother is a member of the D.A.R. which peaked his interest in family history and the role his ancestors played in the early history of the United States. "History comes alive when you realize that your ancestors were really there." Patriotism is another reason he joined the SAR. Like many of our SAR brothers, his family has a long history of military service to the United States. Prior to the American Revolution, his ancestors and other relatives were members of the militias in New England. After the Revolutionary War many served in other conflicts, including the War of 1812, World War II, and Viet Nam. Bodeau's father served in the US Army. Geoffrey was on active duty in the US Air Force from 1989-1993, and was deployed overseas for Operation Desert Storm in 1991. His son, Johnny, is currently an Air Force officer serving at Cape Canaveral Air Force Base. "All of us in the SAR know of the sacrifices that have been made to keep our country strong and free," stated Bodeau.

Geoffrey and his wife Sandra have three sons, Thomas, John and James, all of whom are life-members of the MNSAR. Their daughter, Anne is a

member of the D.A.R.

Bodeau is a former Air Force Officer and Flight Surgeon. He was in the USAF Reserve from 1980-1989 and USAF Active Duty from 1989-1993. He holds the rank of Major.

Bodeau is currently a radiologist and medical director of nuclear medicine at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Medical Director of LifeScan Minnesota PET/CT Center in Edina and Medical Codirector of HeartScan Minnesota. He works mainly with diagnostic imaging of heart disease and cancer.

His patriot ancestor is WILLIAM TROWBRIDGE, who was born March 20, 1751 and died September 30, 1833, in Worcester, MA. In 1774 William Trowbridge was a soldier in a company of minutemen raised in his native town, commanded by Capt. Timothy Bigelow. On April 19, 1775, on the alarm of the invasion of the British troops to Lexington and Concord, Trowbridge volunteered as a private soldier and marched in this company under Capt. Timothy Bigelow, Lieuts. Jonas Hubbard and John Smith. They left Worcester near sunset going through Shrewsbury, Northborough, Marlborough, Sudbury, Weston, and Waltham, arriving at Watertown, a distance of more than forty miles, the next morning, after marching all night. Hav-

ing ascertained the retreat of the British, the company halted for refreshments, and then advanced to Cambridge. He did duty under Captain Bigelow until April 24, when an organization of the forces took place, and Captain Bigelow was appointed major, Jonas Hubbard was promoted to be captain and John Smith to be first lieutenant. Trowbridge then enlisted for eight months, or until the last day of December or the first day of January following, as a soldier in Captain Hubbard's company, Col. Jonathan Ward's regiment of infantry, and was stationed in a house in Cambridge near the Charles River. He and Captain Hubbard's company were among the first that broke ground for the military work called Fort No. 2, and he was employed in its construction. He did duty in this company until June 6, when, permission having been given for three from each company to enlist into the "train," as it was called. [This was "**The Noble Train of Artillery**," also known as the Knox Expedition, an expedition led by Continental Army Colonel Henry Knox to transport heavy weaponry that had been captured at Fort Ticonderoga to the Continental Army camps outside Boston, Massachusetts during the winter of 1775-1776. Knox went to Ticonderoga in November 1775, and, over the course of

three winter months, moved 60 tons of cannons and other armaments by boat, horse and ox-drawn sledges, and manpower, along poor-quality roads, across two semi-frozen rivers, and through the forests and swamps of the lightly inhabited Berkshires to the Boston area. Historian Victor Brooks has called Knox's exploit "one of the most stupendous feats of logistics" of the entire American Revolutionary War.] William Trowbridge enlisted on June 6, 1775, in Capt. Ezra Badlam's company of artillery, Col. Richard Gridley's regiment, in which he did duty as first corporal for two months. He was then promoted sergeant, and did duty as orderly until the term of service expired and the company was dismissed on January 1, 1776. He was stationed with the artillery just below the hill on which the meeting-house stood in Roxbury, and was there during the battle of Bunker Hill, with his company within range of the British cannon from Boston. He assisted General Knox in laying out the fortifications in Roxbury. Afterwards he was stationed in Brooklyn Fort until the termination of his service. The service above mentioned was all performed as a volunteer in the state troops of Massachusetts. He served in the whole, eight months and twelve days, viz.: From April 19, 1775, to June 6, 1775, as a private soldier; from June 6, 1775, to August 6, 1775, as corporal; and from August 6, 1775, to January 1, 1776, as sergeant. While acting as orderly of artillery, he received orders at headquarters with the adjutants of infantry. (US Pension Office Records)

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday March 23, 1778

'BARON' VON STEUBEN RESHAPES WASHINGTON'S ARMY

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – The American army at Valley Forge is bolstered by the arrival of a newcomer, Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin, Baron von Steuben, a soldier who liked to decorate himself with sonorous names. While Steuben could legitimately claim wartime experience, having served as a Prussian captain during the Seven Years' War and on the military staff of Frederick the Great, the baron title was bogus.

When he heard of the war in America and in the summer of 1777, went hurrying to Paris, where he met Benjamin Franklin. That worthy, always a shrewd judge of human flesh, was deeply impressed, as was the French minister of war, and thus, with a nice loan from Beaumarchais, he was able to arrive in Philadelphia in style. The American Ministers, Franklin and Silas Deane, embellished his credentials to make him more acceptable to Washington; on the spot, the unemployed captain was puffed up to the rank of a lieutenant general. Courtly, with a bluff Germanic charm – and a basic if not actually crude Teutonic sense of humor – he also impressed the delegates. He agreed to waive a salary temporarily and serve

only for expenses. He was not boastful of his military prowess or knowledge, like Charles Lee, but carried his credentials in his brain. So it was that the President of Congress, John Hancock, provided him with servants, a sleigh, a carriage, horses and uniforms and sent him on to Valley Forge.

In late February 1778 the self-styled baron with the fleshy nose, jowly face, and uncertain command of English (he resorted to French to make himself understood) showed up at Valley Forge, where his bemedaled figure made a huge impression. "He seemed to me a perfect personification of Mars," said one private. "The trappings of his horse, the enormous holsters of his pistols, his large size, and strikingly martial aspect, all seemed to favor the idea."

Steuben – he had as yet no rank – was shocked at the appearance of the American soldiers. He had found an army almost without hope. "The men were literally naked," he observed. "The officers who had coats had them of every color...made of an old blanket or a woolen bedcover. With regard to their military discipline, I may safely say no such thing existed." No unit was at full strength. Desertions – especially among the foreign



born – disease and death had depleted every unit. One company had shrunk from a hundred men to only one corporal. One regiment could muster only thirty soldiers. Their muskets were "in a horrible condition, covered with rust, half of them without bayonets," and those who had them used them chiefly as spits on which to cook their meat. Each regiment had its own idea of how to drill, camping as its colonel decreed without any sense of standard or order. There were more supply officers in the Continental Army than in all the armies of Europe, but no one actually kept records of arms, clothing equipment or ammunition. In the American belief that with no battles to fight, camp was an utter and useless bore, many officers and men went home for the winter. Men who had completed their service, carried their weapons and clothing home with them, contrary to army orders. Incredibly,

quartermasters were paid a percentage of the supplies they purchased – a license to steal if there ever was one! Such waste inevitably contributed to inflation and an unstable currency.

Steuben marveled that Washington's army had not melted clean away. No European army could have survived under such conditions. Yet, as he deplored the attitude and appearance of these ragged and undisciplined troops, he was deeply moved by the sardonic jocularity with which they made light of their miseries, and the depth of their devotion to the cause of freedom. He had never encountered such spirit before.

Steuben had insisted that he desired no command until he learned "the language and the genius and manners of the people" – in itself an insight of genius – and he saw at once that the whole problem was one of discipline: and that meant drill. If that fierce spirit of independence

could be controlled and harnessed like wild horses, what soldiers would emerge! But it was a month before he was able to compose a standard drill, chiefly because of the language difficulty. First he would write it in French, which would be translated into English by Du Ponceau and then into American, as it were, by Nathanael Greene and Alexander Hamilton. As Steuben remembered: "I dictated my dispositions in the night; in the day I had them performed." His drill squad was a model platoon of picked soldiers who would become the drillmasters for their own units in the Continental Army's fourteen brigades. Though all these men had been in battle, and therefore had the right to be considered veteran soldiers, Steuben began as though he were welcoming new recruits. The presumption was that they knew absolutely nothing about soldiering and were no better than civilians, and thus he started – oh indignity of indignities! – by telling them how to stand. Head up, chin in, shoulders back, chest out, stomach (or what was left of it) in, arms and hands rigid at the side. Next he demonstrated the twenty-eight inch stride and how they must step out left foot first upon the command, "Vorwaarts, march!" Then how to stop upon the command, "Halt! Vun-doo!" Then the various commands and changes of direction: "Doo der rear, march!" "Left oblique, march!" "Right vlink, march!" "Golumn left, march." As they marched he chanted cadence, "Vun-

doo-dree-four," which they took up themselves some of them deliberately mimicking Steuben's guttural accent, to his delighted surprise – that sing-song chant with its rhythmic power to bind men together as a unit sensitive to nothing but their leader's commands.

This was exactly what Steuben was doing, in the way of every drillmaster since Agamemnon: he was stripping his soldiers of every vestige or shred of individuality, making automata of them, taking them apart by denying every trait or like or dislike; then, once he had dissembled them as human beings, putting them together again as soldiers by instructions in the manual of arms, a complicated procedure with twelve different motions involved in loading and firing a musket. Here was the basic unlearning – a learning process that did take time and patience. It did at last have its rewards, as these shoeless men stepped out smartly or snapped their naked heels together with a soft thump, rather than a sharp click; swerved left on the oblique or right on the column pivoting off the right foot; or changed direction in a body to either flank.

Steuben was a born impresario, a show in himself, attracting hundreds of soldiers and officers drawn by his colorful polyglot combining three languages that made them roar with laughter. Best of all, he was making the parade ground – so often a citadel of boredom – a place of fun and laughter, with his infectious grin and his outra-

geous ability to curse fluently in three languages. Thus to Captain Walker: "*Viens, Valkaire, mon ami, mon bon ami! Sacre! Goddam de gauderies of dese badouts. Je ne puis plus.* I gan gurse dem no more!"

Within four weeks, the baron had worked a transformation. The rabble in arms could now march like any European soldiers and, best of all, could deploy and change formation under combat conditions. Steuben was himself surprised, and wrote: "My enterprise succeeded better than I had dared to expect, and I had the satisfaction... to see not only a regular step introduced in the army, but I also made maneuvers with ten and twelve battalions with as much precision as the evolution of a single company." He also discovered the difference between the European and American soldier. "The genius of this nation is not the least to be compared with that of the Prussians, Austrians or French. You say to your European soldier, 'Do this,' and he doeth it. But to an American I am obliged to say, 'This is the reason why you ought to do that, 'and then he does it.'" Unknown to the baron, while he was making soldiers out of free spirits, they were converting a Prussian autocrat to democracy.

Thus when his French aides, with his permission, invited a number of young officers to dine at his quarters, the condition, according to Du Ponceau, was that "none should be admitted that had on a whole pair of

breeches." In this, he continued, all those he invited "were very sure not to fail." Each guest brought his own ration to the "feast," and in the way of jolly comrades in arms of all wars, "we dined sumptuously on tough beefsteak and potatoes, with hickory nuts for dessert. Instead of wine, we had some kind of spirits with which we made 'Salamanders,' that is to say, after filling up our glasses we set liquor on fire and drank it up, flame and all. Such a set of ragged and at the same time merry fellows were never brought together!" The baron called the guests his "sansculottes." When an American officer who spoke no French inquired its meaning, his host with the customary impish grin and twinkling gray eye, replied: "Mittout pants."

George Washington had expected much from Steuben, but the miracle that Steuben had wrought was beyond his wildest hopes. In gratitude, when Thomas Conway resigned as inspector general, he recommended the baron as his replacement with the rank of major general. Also, as the winter turned to spring and the supply problem began to ease, recruits began to come in, perhaps drawn by the new spirit of professionalism animating the Continental Army.

Sources:

Washington,
by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, 2010

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



2017 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, Minneapolis Chapter or the Saint Paul Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Vice President:Dennis Garvin Croonquist
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:.....Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar: ..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Thomas Christopher Harris
 Surgeon:George Floyd Smith, M.D.
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Jonathan Lee Gustafson

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

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Curtis John Oliver	John Charles Sassaman
Larry Wray Sisk	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Buford Allen Young

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Charles Edward Boyles	Tracy Ashley Crocker
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Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.	John David McCallum
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Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	Aaron Hale Printup
LTC Allen Dean Shepersky	Rehn Douglas Smith
Stephen Paul Thompson	Stephen John Vescelus
Two Open Positions	

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2018:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2019:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2020:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Knoxville TN, in July 2017

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon, P.P.
 Alternate National Trustee MN:....Duane L.C.M. Galles, Ph.D., P.P.

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 Vice President:Steven James Hyde
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones
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 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren

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President.....Dennis Garvin Croonquist
 Vice PresidentDavid Adriaance Foster
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainThomas Christopher Harris
 Board of Managers.....John Charles Sassaman
 Charles Edward Boyles
 John David McCallum

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 18, 2017. Our speaker will be COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, Ph.D. Past President MNSAR. His topic will be about the Battle of Saratoga. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

Note: The cost of the meal is \$27.00.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2017

2017 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

February 18, 2017 – Minneapolis, Minnesota – 36 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 62. Jax Café had prepared their signature Pistachio Encrusted Chicken for the group, with a vegetarian alternative for those desiring such. The assemblage enjoyed a delightful Raspberry Mousse for dessert.

New member, James Bruce Pease, flanked by MNSAR Color Guard members, Steven Hyde and Paul Theisen.



**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Annual George Washington
Observance and Luncheon

Military Lessons from the
Hudson Valley Campaign of 1777

American Eagle

New MNSAR Members

Hutchinson Eagle Scout Honored

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MILITARY LESSONS FROM THE HUDSON VALLEY CAMPAIGN OF 1777

COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, Past President General, North Central District NSSAR and Past President of both the Minnesota Society SAR and Minnesota SR brought a fascinating and thorough presentation about British General Burgoyne's fateful Hudson Valley Campaign culminating in the two battles of Saratoga and its aftermath.

The British plan was a three pronged invasion of General John Burgoyne heading south from Canada on Lake Champlain, Lt. Col. Barry St. Leger marching east along the Mohawk Valley and the British Commander-in-Chief in North America, General William Howe, traveling north from his base in New York City. They were to converge near Albany New York and effectively cut off New England from the rest of the colonies.

The American Major General Philip Schuyler, commander of the Northern Department and Major General Arthur St. Clair, in command of Fort Ticonderoga had no intelligence concerning the British invasion until it was almost too late. Burgoyne's 4,700 British forces, 4,500 Hessian mercenaries and 500 Indian allies were hoping to draw the American forces at Ticonderoga to engage in battle or to lay siege to the Fort. General St. Clair chose to evacuate instead. His army marched across the pontoon bridge to Mt. Independence and the New Hampshire Grants.

Burgoyne sent forces out from his main body to pursue the retreating army where they caught up to the American rear guard at Hubbardton. On July 7, 1777 the

British troops faced determined resistance in the Battle of Hubbardton. The British won the battle but the American rear guard provided valuable time for the retreating army.

General Burgoyne elected to wait at Skenesborough, NY for his supplies until the entire army could advance. Burgoyne presented the Americans with a magnificent gift of time, during which the soldiers-turned-axemen made great progress felling trees, damming streams, and dismantling bridges. On July 29, three weeks from the day General John Burgoyne had landed at Skenesborough, his exhausted army reached Fort Edward. It had taken him three weeks to advance twenty-three miles.

In the meantime, the woods were alive with Indian parties, one of which had killed and scalped Jane McCrea, a beautiful young fiancée of a soldier in Burgoyne's army. The story was white-hot in the hearts of militia gathering across the border in New Hampshire and Vermont.

St. Leger laid siege to Fort Stanwix, situated midway from Lake Ontario to Albany on the Mohawk River. General Washington had sent General Benedict Arnold to the northern theater. Arnold realized that the enemy commander's Achilles' heel was his Mohawk Indians. He used a half-wit Tory named Hon-Yost Schuyler, as a useful means of causing Chief Brant's Mohawks to desert. St. Leger was compelled to raise the siege and retreat back toward Lake Ontario. Arnold would join General Horatio Gates and the

main army near Saratoga.

General William Howe decided to set his sights on Philadelphia rather than take a subordinate role to General Burgoyne.

Burgoyne had to leave part of his forces at each fort he captured, he was also behind schedule, he had no influx of loyalists as he had anticipated, and St. Leger's and Howe's part of the three-prong plan failed to materialize.

General Gates, on the other hand, had a strong defensive position at Bemis Heights and patriot militias came pouring in to give the American a six-to-seven thousand man army.

By September Burgoyne expected to have succeed. He decided to cut his lines of communication and head south. On September 19th the British tried to outflank the Americans. It had been cold and foggy that morning. By eleven o'clock, it cleared, and Burgoyne ordered three signal guns fired. The attack was on. The Battle of Freeman's Farm raged for hours. It was getting dark as the Americans retreated through the woods behind their breastworks, leaving Burgoyne in possession of the bloody clearing. The last army to leave a battlefield is technically the victor, but as he ordered his troops back to their camp two miles away and left behind 620 dead or dying men mingled with three hundred killed or wounded Americans, he was stunned at the American resistance.

General Howe, when he left New York for Philadelphia, had put General Sir Henry Clinton in charge of New York's defense,

with instructions to assist Burgoyne if opportunities arose. On October 3, Clinton sailed up the Hudson River with 3,000 men, and on October 6, one day after receiving Burgoyne's appeal, captured the highland forts named Clinton and Montgomery. Burgoyne never received Clinton's dispatches following this victory, as all three messengers were captured.

Burgoyne wasn't about to retreat to Canada. He had less than a month's supply of food and almost no fodder for the horses. He decided to fortify his position. Finally, on October sixth, Burgoyne decided to see if there was some way around the Americans. He ordered a reconnaissance in force for the next day: he himself would lead it. Word of his movement had been received at Gate's headquarters. Wilkinson rode out to Daniel Morgan on the left, carrying back the Old Wagoner's request to attack the British. At this request, Gates is said to have exclaimed: "Order on Morgan to begin the game."

Benedict Arnold, who had been relieved of command, following heated arguments with Gates, fumed and fretted outside his tent, listening in agony to the battle that he was forbidden to join. Shouting, "Victory or death!" he plunged his spurs into his black charger, Warren, hauling back on the reins to clear a sally port – and went galloping toward Morgan and Dearborn, his favorite fighters and their beloved men.

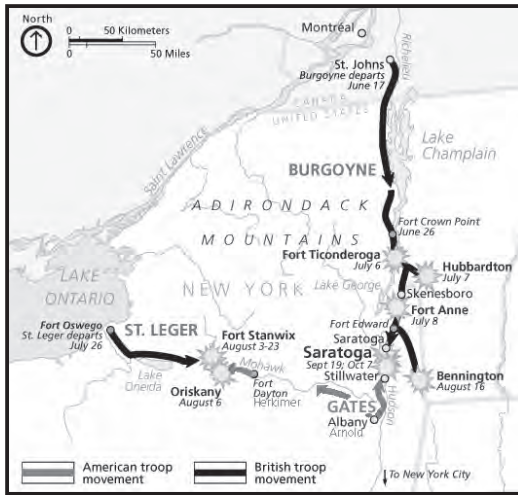
Arnold led the soldiers to Breymann's strongly defended redoubt where German musket



balls pierced Warren's side, and the stricken horse fell kicking and screaming, throwing Arnold clear. Arnold jumped erect with drawn sword, just as a wounded Hessian rolled over and fired at him. Arnold went down with a severe wound in his leg.

Burgoyne's gamble had cost him another five hundred men, half of them captured. The American loss was significantly lower. On October 17, 1777 General John Burgoyne surrendered 5,728 men, 5,000 muskets, and 37 cannon – his entire army.

COL. McRoberts used his unique perspective, having been a military planner in the Army, to impart military lessons learned during the Hudson Valley campaign of 1777: **Trading Space for Time** – The Americans gave up Forts Ticonderoga and Edward but gained valuable time as they withdrew; **Unity of Command** – Burgoyne depended on Howe but had no control over his decisions; **Strategic vs. Tactical** – Burgoyne won the initial tactical battles but lost the overall strategic battle; **Lines of Communication** – After cutting his lines of communication, Burgoyne had no supplies left and no local Loyalist support; **Active vs. Passive Defense** – Gates initially attacked from his defensive positions, but in the end simply waited for Burgoyne to attack, withdraw, or surrender.



NSSAR TRIP 1777: THE ROAD TO SARATOGA

Dates: 4th May to 13th May 2017

- 9 OVERNIGHT STAYS
- Québec City 2 Nights
- Montréal 2 Nights
- Burlington 1 Night
- Lake George 3 Nights
- Albany 1 Night

This itinerary generally follows the 1777 route of British General John Burgoyne from Québec City to his defeat at Saratoga at the hands of Patriots under the command of General Horatio Gates and ends with a patriotic celebration in Albany, the unachieved objective of Burgoyne's campaign. Along the way, we plan to dedicate at least two new SAR markers or interpretive signs.

For more information sign-on to the members area of www.sar.org and type the Road to Saratoga in the search box.

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT



New Members were welcomed during the Washington Day Observance and Luncheon: James Bruce Pease, Gary Monroe "Monte" Printup, Jr., and Thomas William Sneed. Certificates for approved supplemental applications were presented to John Snell and Jacob Waters. Member rosettes were presented to those attending their first SAR meeting: Thor Erickson, Michael Moses, Marshall Rinek, and Richard Smith.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Daniel David Hendrix.....	John Massey
Truxtun Bradford Morrison	Thomas Truxtun
Thomas Tullef Morrison.....	Thomas Truxtun
Mark Stephen Bendickson, Jr.	Robert Polley
David Woodbury Hust, III	Enos Day
Gary Monroe Printup, Jr.	Joseph Printup
Scott Campbell Hahn.....	Joshua Fairbanks
Thomas William Sneed.....	Thomas Hardeman
James Bruce Pease.....	Robert Cravens, Jr.

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS:

Name	Patriot
David Adriance Foster	John Lansing
Robert W. G. Allison	Timothy Holcomb, Sr.
Jacob Waters	Josephus Waters
Jacob Waters	John Armstrong, Sr.

The Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on September 23, 2017. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.



HUTCHINSON EAGLE SCOUT HONORED



The Battle of Bennington, by Wyatt S. Hahn – 2016 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd president of the United States, once stated, “December 7, 1941 is a day which will live in infamy.” August 16, 1777 is just the opposite. August 16, 1777 is a day which will not be remembered because of tragedy, but because of the effects it had on the Revolutionary War.

Many historians claim the Battle of Saratoga was the turning point of the American Revolution, and they are correct, but it was the events that led up to the Battle of Saratoga that set a course for American victory which includes the Battle of Bennington. The Battle of Bennington was the very beginning of the turn in the war where the United States began to prosper over the British forces.

The Battle of Bennington was short-lived, lasting only a few hours, but the preparation behind the battle was more time consuming. The British, led by General John Burgoyne

planned to eliminate contact between New England and the other colonies, but this plan was cut short because of the recapture of Fort Ticonderoga by the British. As a result of the recapture, the Americans began evacuating the area near Orwell, Vermont causing the southward movement of Burgoyne’s army to be temporarily stalled at Hubbardton. While the Americans took time to resupply and plan for the oncoming of Burgoyne’s forces, Burgoyne’s men had already prepared a plan to invade a depot in Bennington, New York where they would resupply.

On August 9, 1777, a unit of Burgoyne’s army, under the direction of General Friedrich Baum, was joined by a group of British marksmen and continued toward Bennington. On August 14th, General John Stark, commander of the American force, sent a detachment of men to survey the local area for

Indians where they encountered Baum’s men. In surprise, the Americans retreated quickly and destroyed a bridge along the way in order to slow the progress of the British forces. The next several days brought heavy rains which prevented any battle from occurring.

On the morning of August 16th, the weather cleared and General Stark began to execute his attack on Baum’s troops who were now camped on a hillside near the Walloomsac River. Stark split his men into four different forces each of which would attack from a different side.

At three o’clock that afternoon, Stark stated his famous words, “There are the Red Coats; they will be ours or tonight Molly Stark sleeps a widow.” When the British heard this phrase they began to retreat back into the woods where they ran into one of Stark’s forces. At five o’clock on the evening

Wyatt S. Hahn of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America is the Minnesota winner of the SAR’s Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Wyatt, seen here with the color guard and the MNSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program Chair, Thor Erickson, was honored at the annual Washington Day Luncheon held at Jax Cafe. His father and mother were also in attendance. Wyatt read his patriotic essay about the Battle of Bennington which is presented below.

Wyatt’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 \$10,000 scholarship. \$6,000 and \$4,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen.

This year’s national winner was an Eagle Scout from Illinois. The first and second runners-up represented the Florida and Iowa Societies of the SAR.

of August 16, 1777 the first shot of the Battle of Bennington was fired. The British and Americans engaged each other further in what General Stark described as “one continuous clap of thunder.”

Shortly into the battle Stark was captured and Baum was wounded, but each force continued to fight. The Americans followed the British forces and pushed them all the way to Saratoga, New York where the Americans annihilated the British in what became known as the turning point of the Revolutionary War.

The Battle of Bennington was an important battle in American history because it marked the very beginning of the turn for the better for the Americans during the Revolutionary War.

August 16, 1777 is not a day that should live in infamy, but a day that should live in victory.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday May 7, 1778

FRANCE RECOGNIZES AMERICA

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – Yesterday, On May 6, with his fondness for pageantry, George Washington staged a celebration of the French treaties, beginning with mustering brigades at nine A.M. The treaties were solemnly read aloud, followed by the firing of thirteen canon. The infantry then fired their muskets in sequence, a *feu de joie* that swept the double row of soldiers, who chanted with gusto, “Long Live the King of France.” French officers were embraced everywhere. Baron von Steuben showed off the crack precision of his men, who strutted smartly before a beaming Washington. As a reward, Steuben was appointed inspector general with the rank of major general. “Through it all” John Laurens told his father, President of the Continental Congress, Washington “wore a countenance of uncommon delight.” This was more than a celebration of the French treaties; it was a day of thanksgiving for surviving the horrid winter. In a dream-like transformation, the officers now partook of a bountiful al-fresco dinner. “Fifteen hundred persons sat down to tables, which were spread in the open air,” said General Johann de Kalb. “Wine, meats, and liquors abounded, and happiness and contentment were impressed on every countenance.” Washington even played cricket with younger officers. When he rode off contentedly at five o’clock, his men clapped their hands, cheered “Long live George

Washington!” and twirled a thousand hats in the air. Washington and his aides kept stopping and looking back, sending huzzahs in return.

Even as the Continental Army huddled by fires at Valley Forge, Benjamin Franklin pulled off a magnificent diplomatic feat in the opulent ministries of Paris. On February 6 France recognized American independence through a pair of treaties: the first granting French goods most-favored-nation status in America, and the second committing the French to a military alliance. In the splendid halls of Versailles, Franklin was now addressed not as the representative of thirteen colonies but as an emissary of the United States. In getting a monarchy to bestow its blessings upon an upstart republic, he had won a staggering achievement.

In late April Washington received unofficial word of the French alliance and fully realized its vast significance. At the news, Lafayette gave Washington – the man nobody touched – a double-barreled French kiss on both cheeks. Washington was exultant as tears of joy welled up in his eyes. “I believe no event was ever received with a more heartfelt joy,” he informed Congress. For Washington, the French treaties gave proof that heaven had indeed smiled upon the United States. As he told his troops, in orotund prose, “It having pleased the Almighty ruler of the Universe propitiously to defend the

cause of the United American States and finally, by raising us up a powerful friend among the princes of the earth, to establish our liberty and independence upon lasting foundations, it becomes us to set apart a day for gratefully acknowledging the divine goodness.”

The first fruits of the Franco-American alliance sprouted not in France or America but in Britain, where the British Prime Minister, Lord North, made a determined effort to bring the Americans back into the empire. It was now or never, for the earthquake of Saratoga had produced many aftershocks: new lows on the London stock market; a refusal by the German princes to provide more cannon-fodder, having lost so many men in Burgoyne’s disastrous campaign; Britain’s own manpower reserves at the bottom the barrel; and North’s majority in Parliament diminished. As a condition of his remaining in office, North had received from his friend the king permission to make new offers of conciliation to the Americans.

On February 17, 1778, they were introduced in a House of Commons consisting of stunned Tories and jubilant Whigs. Three days later, in North’s certainty that they would be approved, they were despatched to America.

North began by relinquishing Parliament’s right to tax the colonists. He said he had never believed it was practicable to tax them and prided himself

that as prime minister he had never proposed such a levy. He even conceded the colonies’ right to tax themselves and that any such revenue raised by them should be spent by them on themselves rather than be transferred to the British exchequer. Clearly, he was granting in 1778 everything that, if offered in 1775, would almost certainly have averted the war. North did not speak to the rebellious colonists like the prime ministers of old – a parent chastising an unruly child – but as an equal depending upon the blandishments of sweet reason to bid the prodigal to return to the bosom of the Mother Country.

Yet, he was actually granting nothing, for he did not retract a single jot or tittle of the apparatus of British mercantilism. American manufacturing and commerce would remain under the strict regulation of Britain. Thus the British would resume their lucrative practice of exploiting the rich resources of America while monopolizing the equally profitable policy of supplying her growing millions with manufactured goods. In fine, he was renouncing the unobtainable – Colonial tax revenues – in the interests of retaining the true fruits of empire: mercantilist control of the American economy. As he had told the king: “to give up the levying of positive taxes here is to give up in effect nothing as it is practically certain that none will for the future ever be levied by the British Parliament.”

This was essentially the position taken by the opposition Whigs during the earlier debates on the American question. But the Whigs, sincere in their concern for the Americans, and not, like North, acting out of the duress of military defeat and an American treaty with detestable France, were not so two-faced. Not even the Adamses, in the years preceding the firing of the shot heard round the world, would have been so fatuous as to have expected the Mother Country, alone among the world's exploitative colonial empires, to have abandoned gratuitously its mercantilist policy.

Yet the Whigs were indeed jubilant to hear themselves vindicated by a Tory prime minister, and it was said that they were overheard to be "publicly congratulating themselves on the excellent acquisition which they had just made in the person of Lord North." But the Whig policies, alas, they well knew, had been adopted after it was too late. As Edmund Burke ruefully observed, "the pride of men will not often suffer reason to, have any scope until it can no longer be of service."

Because there had been rumors of an impending Franco-American alliance, many Whigs suspected that North's Conciliatory Propositions were not sincere efforts at peace adapted to the terms they had been supporting for years, but rather an attempt to wreck this alliance. Thus Charles James Fox arose to ask the direct question: was it true that a treaty between France and the colonies had been signed recently? North remained silent in his seat. After Burke arose to remind the prime minister that his proposals were an exact replica of those he had himself two years earlier, only to hear them condemned and see them rejected by the Tories,

North still remained at a loss for words. He came to his feet only after an irate Whig jumped erect to threaten impeachment and shout: "An answer! An answer! An answer!" But North's replies were halting and evasive that it became evident to all present – Tory as well Whig – that a treaty had, in fact, been negotiated.

Now North's duplicity and his true intentions became clear: he sought to torpedo the Franco-American alliance by confusing and demoralizing the Americans, by appealing for peace, not to the American leaders, but to those who were neutral or secretly loyal to the Crown or simply weary of the war. With gleeful indignation the Whigs went over to the attack. Isaac Barre denounced the propositions as "a shameful imposture"... a "scandalous deceit ... a cheat of the most gross kind ... a trick upon the public to divide, distract and sow divisions."

Probably the most shattering denunciation of the prime minister was delivered by Burke, who castigated him as a hawk in dove's plumage, and warned him that his proposals had not the slightest chance of being accepted by the Americans. "To leap at once from an obstinacy of five years," he concluded, "to a total concession of everything; to stoop so low without hopes of being forgiven – who can understand such a transformation?"

Even the great William Pitt, Lord Chatham, arose from his deathbed to enter the fray, appearing on crutches in the House of Lords, swathed in flannel, supported by his son-in-law and son. In a breaking voice he expressed his sorrow that America, the jewel of the imperial crown, the colonies that had always been at the center of his policy that had brought France

to her knees during the Seven Years' War, had now, as he lay dying, turned for succor from North's misdirected policies to that same hated kingdom. After the reply of the Duke of Richmond, Chatham again attempted to rise in rebuttal, but fainted and was carried from the chamber, grief stricken in the knowledge that his very triumph over the French had led to the discontent that was now surely about to sever America from the Mother Country.

Just as the Whig opposition had acted with predictable rage and contempt, the Tory majority was stunned and confounded at this absolute reversal of policy. "Astonishment, dejection, and fear over clouded the whole Tory assembly." Was the British lion such a tabby-cat, they asked, that it must lie down and purr and "crouch to the vipers and rebels in America?" Narrow-minded and implacable enemies of the insolent Yankees though they might be, they were still true Britons, whose "hearts of oak" would not quiver at the prospect of fighting both France and America. Some of them began to talk of replacing North with a more acceptable prime minister in the true-blue British mold, but all of them knew – just as did the Whigs – that for all the denunciation and the bluster, even though three-quarters of the House for diametrically opposite reasons opposed the Conciliatory Propositions, most of them would swallow their pride and vote their approval. As the Tories maintained, this alone would demonstrate "the affection of the indulgent, injured mother even to her most degenerate, refractory, guilty children." It was with that noble, self-sacrificing sense of coming to the side of the Americans as a mother to her child, that the Tories sullenly accepted a rare

union with the smirking Whigs. The Conciliatory Propositions were accepted, and a Peace Commission, under the Earl of Carlisle, "a young man of pleasure and fashion, fond of dress and gaming," was authorized to negotiate with Congress.

On April 16, members of the Carlisle Commission set sail from Portsmouth, England, accompanied by General Charles Cornwallis, the newly appointed second in command for North America. Earlier in the year, Lord Germain accepted General William Howe's resignation and appointed General Henry Clinton to succeed General Howe as commander in chief of the British forces in North America.

Word of the French alliance had beaten the Carlisle Commission to America. Three days ago, on May 4, the Continental Congress ratified the treaties of alliance and of amity and commerce with France.

Sources:

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by Ron Chernow,
The Penguin Press, 2010

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Harper Perennial, 1993

Revolutionary War Almanac,
by John C. Fredriksen,
Facts On File, Inc., 2006

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2017



MNSAR COLOR GUARD AT ORONO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Orono, Minnesota – Orono parent and Orono High School alum Aaron Printup visited Orono Schumann Elementary April 19 as a representative of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard. He visited the students in MAC (Multi-Age Classroom). The first- and second-graders are studying the United States. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance together, Mr. Printup spoke with classes about the Sons of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution and the importance of American flag etiquette.

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...

MNSAR Color Guard at Orono Elementary School

Annual MNSAR Constitution Day Luncheon

2017 MNSAR Medals and Awards Programs

New Members

American Eagle

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





TOPIC OF THE DAY AT THE CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON: “WHY THE PASSION FOR GENEALOGY?”



37 members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 53. Jax Café had prepared their signature Chicken Chardonnay for the group, with a vegetarian alternative for those desiring such, and a delightful Macadamia Mousse dessert.

National Society SAR Awards

John Charles Sassaman was awarded the Liberty Medal with two oak leaf clusters for being the top line signer on another twenty new members. The Minnesota Society has been awarded the Houston Chapter Award for the State Society that registered the highest percentage of new members as transfer from the Children of the American Revolution. Bruce Mueller, Senior President of the Minnesota Society Children of the Ameri-

can Revolution, was presented the Eleanor Smallwood Niebell award from the National Society Sons of the American Revolution to the Minnesota Society C.A.R., which recognizes the State Society C.A.R. whose newsletter was judged the best in the nation. The award was accompanied by a check for \$250.00. Mueller was in attendance (pictured left), to accept his award. He distributed copies of the C.A.R. newsletter, *The Minnesota Northstar*, to each member of the MNSAR and MNSR present.

Program

Tracy Ashley Crocker brought an interesting and delightful presentation detailing “Why the Passion for Genealogy?” Crocker is a member of the MNSAR and MNSR, as well as numerous other societies and is a nationally recognized Genealogist.

Crocker traces his ancestry back to Charlemagne or Charles the Great, who was King of the Franks from 768, King of the Lombards from 774 and Emperor of the Romans from 800. He united much of Europe during the early Middle Ages.

Crocker stated that genealogy starts with family, mentors and friends. He has met many friends during his 50 years of research. A genealogist will learn his family history, American history and European history along the way. One will learn about many historical events



such as wars their ancestor’s participated in, ships they took passage in when they immigrated, and places they migrated to.

Crocker started when card catalogs and microfilm on reels were used for research. With the advent of on-line research, genealogy has become one of the most popular hobbies in America. Putting the pieces together is a labor of love, and the family jig-saw is never complete.

Crocker expressed that each person has eight great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents and 32 great-great-great-grandparents – Each generation doubling in number.

Crocker reminded his audience not to forget the mother’s

genealogy, which is more difficult to do but perhaps even more rewarding.

Crocker touched upon the subject of DNA calling it the new horizon.

Crocker also pointed out that we can be good ancestor’s to future generations by keeping birth, marriage and death certificates and keeping all records, chronicles and newspaper clippings. He reminded us to date all correspondence, and to be sure to archive family photographs – identifying the people, places and dates.

Dr. Geoffrey Bodeau, President of the Minnesota SAR, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the speaker.

Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, January 13, 2018: Annual Business Meeting for MNSAR members only.

Saturday, February 17, 2018: Washington Day Luncheon – SAR & SR – open to all. **Program:** “The Southern Campaign of the Revolution” presented by COL Ronald McRoberts.

The meetings will be held at Jax Cafe.



2017 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

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

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following Compatriots for presenting the medals and certificates: MAJ Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D., Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, Charles Edward Boyles, Michael Ronald Bradley, Dennis Garvin Croonquist, David Adriance. Foster, James Everett Hagen, Steven J. Hyde, Marvin Lane Jansma, John Hallberg Jones, Larry Allen Lundblad, Christopher John Pizinger, John Charles Sassaman, and LTC Allen Dean Shepersky.



ship, 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 patriotism and love of country by flying the flag. This years recipients were:

- Grundhofer's Old-Fashion Meats, Hugo
- Interstate Companies, Forest Lake
- Jesse Johnson – State Farm Insurance, Forest Lake
- McCollough & Sons Inc., Forest Lake
- Tracker Boating Center Forest Lake

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2017. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country.

In 2017 we awarded the medal in 24 area high schools and one Naval Sea Cadets squadron. In all, it was a fine program once again.

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, Leader-

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones presented certificates and rosettes to new members: Finnegan Gabriel McRoberts (accepted by Ronald McRoberts, grandfather), Arman Tagarro, Christopher Brite Williamson, who also accepted the certificates for his sons Mitchell Brite Williamson and Benjamin Mark Williamson, Christian James Snyder, and James Patrick Kelly, who also accepted certificates for his sons Benjamin James Kelly and William Francis Kelly. Certificates for those new members not present will be mailed. Certificates and stars for approved supplemental ancestors were presented to Michael Scott Swisher, Robert W. G. Allison, and James Everett Hagen (for three supplemental applications):

NEW MEMBERS:

Member	Patriot
Finnegan Gabriel McRoberts	Elijah Barnes, Sr.
Arman Christian Tagarro	Cyril Carpenter
Michael Don Sanford	Zenas Northway
Sean Robert Kirby	John Wright
Christopher Brite Williamson	Charles Dorsey
Mitchell Brite Williamson	Charles Dorsey
Benjamin Mark Williamson	Charles Dorsey
Michael Waters Glaser.....	Glen Owen
Christian James Snyder	Ludwig Lewis John Stull
James Patrick Kelly	Joseph Hartwell
Benjamin James Kelly	Joseph Hartwell
William Francis Kelly.....	Joseph Hartwell

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS:

Member	Patriot
Michael Scott Swisher	Hezekiah Brown
Robert W. G. Allison	Hezekiah Holcomb
James Everett Hagen	Gerrit Ostrander
James Everett Hagen	Martinus Siver
James Everett Hagen	Adam Rath/Roth



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE FOR THE MNSAR

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Looking ahead we need to have increased participation in the activities of the Minnesota SAR. In the past decade our membership has more than doubled. But the vast bulk of the work is still being done by a small handful of members. We need more participation!

Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Programs

Both the Minneapolis Chapter and Saint Paul Chapter have these programs. For many years Tim Harris has handled the Saint Paul Chapter and John Jones has handled the Minneapolis Chapter. This involves contacting the schools in early January, getting the names of the awardees and dates of programs, preparing the certificates, getting the medals engraved, packaging and mailing each to the places involved. Over the years we have found that very few want someone to come and present the award, as they have many awards to present and programs are usually done in one 45-50 period, thus they do not want speeches. Both chapters need a new coordinator. Contact Tim Harris at 763-746-6580 or tim_harris@comcast.net and John Jones at 612-721-4275 or John@Good-NewsProductions.us.

Flag Certificate Presentations

The Saint Paul Chapter annually selects five businesses who daily fly the flag. On Flag Day, June 14th, they arrive at the establishment and present the certificates. Tim Harris has coordinated it. Contact Tim to take over that task.

ROTC and JROTC Awards Program

The Minnesota Society does this program. John Jones has been the coordinator for many years. This involves contacting the 7 ROTC and 12 JROTC units in the state in January, getting the date of their program, getting the name of the awardee, preparing the certificates, getting the medals engraved, packaging and mailing the materials to the unit. An important part is lining up a presenter for each program and advising the unit of the name of the presenter. We have many who are doing the presentations, and all who do them are enthusiastic about the program. Contact Jones to take over the coordinator task.

MNSAR Color Guard

This unit presents the colors at our meetings, appears in some parades and other events such as the CAR Pancake Breakfast in Wayzata on July 4th, has attended reviews and funerals to stand guard, presenting the flag at the swearing in of new citizens, etc. The Commander is Paul Theisen. Contact Paul at pstheis36@mainstreet.com or 320 351-6221. The unit is always looking for additional members. The Society can assist in getting the uniforms for participants. As we add members to the Color Guard we can add flags to be carried. We already have a musket and a drum. This is a program that brings great visibility for the SAR in the community.

CAR and DAR Liaison Committee

We need to add to this com-

mittee. Members should attend CAR and DAR events to promote SAR and assist in recruitment. Contact President Bodeau if you can assist. 952-240-9701 or gbodeau@gmail.com.

Delegates to National Congress

The MNSAR has very low participation of members attending the NSSAR National Congresses. At this time Minnesota has seven delegate slots. The State President is one. (The Vice President is automatically a delegate if the President is not able to attend). The National Trustee from Minnesota is automatically a delegate. Each state gets one delegate-at-large, and then we have four additional delegates based on our overall membership. We recognize that this kind of travel can be rather expensive, but the expenses are a charity deduction on your taxes, as SAR is a 501c3 IRS recognized organization.

Minnesota Society Hospitality Committee

It would be nice to have a Committee to handle the arrangements for our Washington Day and Constitution Day Luncheons. We would think that this might include arranging speakers,

Setting the menu, handling the arrangements with the restaurant, mailing the invitations to our members, calling in the number of reservations to the restaurant and creating name tags as with many new members we now need to get to know each other even better. Contact President Bodeau if you can assist.

Officers of the Minnesota Society

Simply stated, we need more involvement. There is a time commitment to this of course. An example is the office of Secretary-Treasurer. John Jones has done this job for over 45 years. We need to have someone younger to take over. This involves being the point of contact with the National Society and coordinating all the activity of the Minnesota Society. Major projects are the mailing of meeting notices, most particularly the dues notices. The heaviest activity is from September through March, as all three of our meetings are in that time period as is the dues collection and reports to the National SAR. Obviously with the heaviest activity being in that period, the commitment to the office means that winter vacations could be a problem. But not everyone takes them, so we ought to be able to find a replacement for this officer.

There are other offices, some of which seem to be "in name only" positions, but attendance at meetings can put you in line for the top slots. At the state level we have usually looked to those who have been Chapter Presidents, so the Chapters have this same problem.

Contact President Bodeau or Secretary-Treasurer Jones with questions, comments, etc.

Overall we have a great group of men in this organization. But we do need your help now to keep it moving forward.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday May 21, 1778

BATTLE OF BARREN HILL

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania – On the eighteenth of May, General George Washington advanced General Lafayette, with twenty-one hundred chosen troops and five pieces of artillery to Barren Hill, about halfway between Valley Forge and Philadelphia, to reconnoiter British intentions, as well as to interdict British detachments foraging for food in the surrounding countryside. His orders gave him command over all outposts and skirmishing detachments, contemplated the contingency of an early evacuation of Philadelphia by the British army, and with caution as to prudence in taking his positions and risking doubtful movements, conferred large authority and discretion in the execution of his instructions.

It was practically a corps of observation, and it was the first really independent command of Lafayette, as a Major-General. The execution of his trust illustrates those peculiar traits of his character which had early attracted the favor of Washington, won his respect, and gradually deepened into an attachment almost paternal in its depth and endurance. The American Commander-in-Chief, however reticent of his opinions, rarely failed to read men. He read Lafayette. With singular enthusiasm, great purity of character and purpose, unswerving fidelity to obligation, and thorough contempt the mean or dishonorable, this young French gentleman, now Major-General, combined a quick sagacity, sound judgment

and quick execution.

A site for his camp atop Barren Hill was well selected. A steep, rocky ledge was on the right toward the Schuylkill River as well as to the front where his guns were placed. Captain Allen McLean's light troops and fifty Indian scouts were just below, near the Ridge Road, and pickets were still further advanced on the road and in the woods. To the left was a dense forest, and just on its edge there were several stone houses well capable of defense. Six hundred Pennsylvania militia under General Porter were posted on the Whitemarsh Road. The sudden retreat of this body without notice or reporting their action, very nearly involved his command in a conflict with more than double its force. At the forks of the two roads there was a stone church in a burying ground which was inclosed by a stone fence; and Lafayette established his headquarters close by.

General William Howe, eager to capture the Marquis de Lafayette and humiliate the Franco-American alliance, dispatched General James Grant and five thousand British troops to surprise the American camp at Barren Hill. This command marched early on the morning of May nineteenth by the Lime-kiln and old York roads, and very early the next morning passed Whitemarsh, where it changed direction to the left toward Barren Hill, with the design of cutting off Lafayette's retreat by Swede's Ford. General Grey with two thousand

men crossed the Schuylkill and marched along its west bank to a point about three miles below Barren Hill to be in readiness to act in concert with the other detachments. General Henry Clinton with a third division marched by Chestnut Hill, and up the Manatawny Road to make enclosure of Lafayette's command within their enveloping forces the more secure. The plan was skillfully conceived.

General Lafayette was notified that red uniforms had been seen in the woods, near the road from Whitemarsh to Swede's Ford, in his rear. His first impression was that they were close at hand. To assure himself, he immediately sent Captain McLane ahead into the woods with fifty Oneida warriors to scout and learn the real facts. He changed front immediately, occupied the church, burying ground and all strong points, and then "made a display of false heads of columns," as if preparing to advance promptly upon the enemy.

General Grant halted his advance guard to await the arrival of the whole division before engaging with the American troops. The British column then on the Ridge Road, also halted, and waited for assurance that the right had really reached Lafayette's rear; and this was to be determined by an actual attack.

A country road ran from the church directly under Barren Hill to Matson's Ford, which was very little further from Valley Forge than Swede's Ford. This road was entirely hidden from view by the hill. The Brit-

ish right rested at the crossing of the two principal roads to both fords and they were nearer to Matson's Ford than Lafayette was; but supposed that they controlled all approaches.

General Enoch Poor was ordered to lead the retreat, and Lafayette brought up the rear. The troops retired in order and so promptly that the main body crossed the ford and occupied high and commanding ground. The British vanguard learned of the movement, and pressed on in pursuit. As the last troops crossed, a brisk skirmish ensued over the guns, which were the last to follow; but the retreat was perfected and the guns were saved.

General Washington had a distinct view of the British movement as it advanced, and fired alarm guns to warn Lafayette; but the wisdom, coolness, and promptness of that officer saved his command. The American loss was nine, and that of the British was reported as three. Lafayette relates the fact, that "fifty Indian scouts were suddenly confronted by an equal number of British dragoons," and that "the mutual surprise was so great that both fled with equal speed."

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac, by John C. Fredriksen, Facts On File, Inc., 2006

Battles of the American Revolution, 1775-1781, Including Battle Maps and Charts of the American Revolution by Henry Beebe Carrington Promontory Press, 1974

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday May 26, 1778

EXTRAVAGANT FAREWELL FOR SIR WILLIAM HOWE

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – On May 18, an elaborate feast, christened *Mischianza*, was organized in Philadelphia by Captain John Andre for the departing British commander in chief, General William Howe. *Mischianza* is the Italian word for medley, and an extravagant mixture it was, indeed. Its only redeeming feature was that it was paid for by wealthy field officers, rather than through the customary “borrowing” of Crown funds. It consisted of a tournament of knights for the favor of their ladies fair and a grand ball. Its theme was a kind of roccoco medievalism with Turkish accents, or at least what its authors believed to be thus, and took place in Mrs. Thomas Wharton’s fine mansion fronting the river.

Captain John Montresor’s unit of engineers constructed the lists and barriers, as well as two pavilions for the British and American Queens of Beauty at either end of the beautiful four-acre lawn. Each of these pavilions was attended by six damsels of honor in Turkish costumes. Twelve champions were to joust for the favor of these beauties. They were divided into Knights of the Blended Rose, wearing crimson-and-white silk and riding gray horses, and Knights of the Burning Mountain, in orange and black mounted on black steeds.

Captain Andre designed the ladies’ dresses: incredibly extravagant costumes with soaring headdresses sparkling with pearls and jewels, polonaises

– a sort of three-quarter drapery over a short skirt – of white silk with spangled pink sashes and spangled shoes, stockings and sashes for the Blended Rose and for the Burning Mountain, similar outfits except that their polonaises and sashes were black.

At four o’clock in the afternoon of May 18, under the protection of British warships on the Delaware River, the queens and their knights and all the notables, headed by Sir William Howe, the guest of honor, boarded decorated barges serenaded by military music and were rowed from Knight’s Wharf to the landing place at Old Fort. From there they proceeded along an avenue one hundred yards long, lined with soldiers in gay regimentals and underneath two triumphal arches, also designed by the indefatigable Andre, each of which bore a figure of Fame star spangled like the beauty queens and blowing from her trumpet the motto in French: “*Thy laurels are immortal.*” A herald then presented a laurel wreath to Howe and declaimed verses of praise – again by Andre – that, though perfect in rhyme and scan, were without pith or point.

Next there ensued the clash of arms as the knights started sham jousting with lances, swords and pistols. Subalterns in herald’s tabards proclaimed the victors, and the queens blushingly bestowed their favors. At this point the audience – variously thrilled or bored according to their mentality.

Next the assembly re-formed and proceeded to the mansion, where dancing began in the ballroom at six o’clock. Andre and his associate Oliver Delancy had made this splendid room gorgeous by painting garlands of roses against a blue-and-gold background. Nearly one hundred mirrors were fastened to the walls to reflect the brilliance of the scene, and as night fell servants in livery lighted a thousand glittering candles to magnify it. At ten there were magnificent fireworks above the lawn, and two hours later supper was served: a repast of four hundred covers and twelve hundred dishes, borne by twenty-four black slaves with silver bracelets around their muscular arms and silver collars around their necks – an unintended allusion to their chains noticed by no one – and toasts were proclaimed by the heralds to everyone of consequence, beginning with their majesties the king and queen. Finally, dancing was resumed until four o’clock in the morning.

Not everyone was enchanted or enthralled by the *Mischianza*, especially not the veteran officers, who were mortified by such an expensive and foolish extravaganza blossoming among suffering, privation and death. When a small boy asked a grizzled artilleryman what was the difference between the two orders of knights, he replied gruffly: “Why, child, the Knights of the Burning Mountain are Tom Fools and the Knights of the Blended Rose are damned fools. I know of no

other difference between ‘em.” And then, in an aside to his peers: “What will Washington think of all this?”

A few days later, on May 25, 1778 – three years to the day since his arrival in Boston aboard *Cerberus* – Sir William Howe sailed for home.

Sir Henry Clinton is now commander in chief of British military forces in America.

Howe could not escape the indictment of him, believed by most to have been written by Clinton himself:

“Had Sir William fortified the hills around Boston he could not have been disgracefully driven from it; had he pursued his victory at Long Island he had ended the rebellion; had he landed above the lines at New York not a man could have escaped him; had he cooperated with the Northern Army [Burgoyne] he had saved it, or had he gone to Philadelphia by land he had ruined Mr. Washington and his forces; but, as he did none of these things, had he gone to the Devil before he was sent to America, it had been the saving of infamy to himself and indelible dishonor to his country.”

Sources:

George Washington’s War
by Robert Leckie,
Harper Perennial, 1993

Revolutionary War Almanac,
by John C. Fredriksen,
Facts On File, Inc., 2006

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2018



MNSAR 129TH ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 13, 2018. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D. President Bodeau led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Our Chaplain, Michael Scott Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters conducted their business.

Continued Inside...

INSIDE THE MNSAR SALUTE...

Minnesota Society SAR
129th Annual Meeting

American Eagle –
British Evacuate Philadelphia
Now and Then –
Dennis Garvin Croonquist
Remembering James Gillespie
Hirsh

2018 MNSAR, Minneapolis and
Saint Paul Chapter Officers

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Dennis Garvin Croonquist. A motion was made to forego reading the Minutes of the 14 January 2017 meeting as they were summarized in the Minnesota Society newsletter. Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris presented the Financial Report indicating assets totaling \$6,047.66.

Compatriot Harris reported that twelve area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters have been mailed to the same twelve area high schools to begin the program for 2018. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service and an appreciation of patriotism.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2017.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Aaron Hale Printup. Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$21,499.18 as of 31 December 2017.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2017, and that the Minneapolis Chapter also had a presentation at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been

mailed to all schools/units for the 2018 program. The Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea Cadets has their ceremony on 20 January 2018. The Minneapolis Chapter will be represented by Vice President Steven Hyde.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$100.00 to the Society.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report. It showed net assets of \$44,678.29 as of 31 December 2017. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund. Donations to Principal during 2017 were a record \$4,013.00. The Principal as of 31 December 2017 totaled \$40,047.33. The Trustees proposed that the 2017 interest of \$484.49 be used to pay the following donation items: Minnesota Genealogical Society \$50.00, Preservation Alliance of MN \$50.00, and the balance of \$384.49 to the MNSAR Color Guard.

MNSAR Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2017: We started 2017 with 201 members plus 6 dual members. In 2017 there were 22 new members, 1 Memorial member, 2 reinstated, 2 transferred in, 1 death, 1 transfer out, and 2 resignations. This brings the year-end total to 223 (plus the 6 dual

members).

Certificates and rosettes were presented to new members David Werts and Ethan Read, who also received for his young son Brayden Read. Michael Swisher received for the Memorial Membership filed for his grandfather Richard McGee. Supplemental Ancestor certificates were presented to Ronald McRoberts and John Sassaman. Other new member and supplemental certificates will be mailed.

Minnesota Society Programs

Compatriot Sassaman reported on the Eagle Scout Program, indicating disappointment that only one Eagle Scout entered the contest but it was deemed worthy of being forwarded as a State winner. Looking ahead the MNSAR will continue to communicate with the Scout Council Leaders instead of the Scouts themselves. Upon motion passed, we will pay the winner \$300.00, with \$200.00 also being donated to the Council he represents.

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. Letters have already been mailed to the twelve JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota.

Minnesota Color Guard

Compatriot Paul Theisen presented the report on the MNSAR Color Guard. He is passing the Commander position to Aaron Printup and Steven Hyde to continue this excellent work. The Color Guard will be looking to replace several of the old flags and stands, and to getting

shoulder harnesses to assist in carrying flags in parades.

National Congress

President Bodeau commented on the NSSAR National Congress. Minnesota needs delegates to attend. Motion was passed authorizing the President to appoint delegates, who should contact him to advise their desire and ability to attend.

New Business

There was a general discussion of getting more activities and member involvement. Suggestions were made for a visitation to the Stephen Taylor Grave in Winona and a possible boat trip on Lake Minnetonka on the historic "Minnehaha".

A motion was passed to recommend to NSSAR that they develop a stronger relationship with the American Legion and VFW, with possible advertising in their national magazines.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones auctioned off two items with the proceeds going to the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund: A ballad novel on the Battle of Kings Mountain (donated by Arthur Finnell) and an ornament commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

The colors were retired and with no further business appearing, President Bodeau declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned.



NOW & THEN

Dennis Garvin Croonquist was born in Minneapolis and has been a Life member of MNSAR since 2011. He was elected Vice-President of MNSAR in 2017. Dennis' paternal grandmother, Cora, a school teacher, was the first one to pique Dennis interest in genealogy. She gave him a copy of the family's book, *Genealogy of the Condit Family from 1678-1885, 1916 revision*. The book listed his father Garvin as a descendant of Nathaniel Condit. It was fascinating to read and kept him interested in family history. He often ponders what life was like during his ancestors' time. Cora told him that he had more than one ancestor who served in the Revolutionary War. Dennis had heard of the D.A.R. but was unaware of how one could become a member of the SAR at the time and asked his father for more information. He had a treasure trove of information to share from both sides of the family. His paternal grandfather's parents were born in Sweden as well as his mother's parents.

Years later when he was studying chemical engineering at the University of Minnesota he picked up the genealogy bug again when he had the opportunity to study at the University of Uppsala in Sweden. There he researched his maternal grandfather's roots at the Landsarkivit in Göteborg

(Country Archives) and developed a love for Volvo cars. He found long lost relatives and developed lifelong relationships with them; visiting them in Sweden and hosting them here in the US. Back home at the University of Minnesota, he finished his B. S. degree in Chemistry and Scandinavian studies-Swedish language. He adds, "After graduation, I took a position at a Volvo dealership and thought it would be a short stint, but this February marks my 44th year at Borton Volvo as the IT & Parts Director."

He took up his quest for SAR membership with the help of his wife when she was posted at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. They made several trips to the D.A.R. headquarters and once they gathered all the proofs from the prestigious library, Dennis looked on-line and eventually contacted John Hallberg Jones by email. John got him the paperwork and was the Sponsor for his membership.

Dennis and his wife, Ann Mulfort, just celebrated their 35th anniversary last October. Ann is an archivist by education (MLIS Dominican University) training and experience, has taken many genealogy courses and is presently working on finalizing her D. A. R. membership.

Dennis's patriot ancestor is Nathaniel Condit who was

born on September 3, 1746 in Orange NJ. He enlisted on May 8th 1777 as a Private in the Captain Thomas Williams's Company, Essex County, New Jersey militia. He was promoted to corporal and then served under Captain Elijah Squire's NJ. militia, On September 24, 1777; he served at Newark under the command of Major Samuel Hayes. Corporal Condit was discharged on October 1, 1777 from Captain Williams Company, Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt's Regiment in Essex County, NJ. Condit re-enlisted June 7th, 1780 and served in an alarm at Connecticut and was discharged June 26th, 1780. On November 21, 1780 he re-enlisted and served in Newark before being discharged January 12, 1781. He died on October 2, 1805 at Orange, NJ.

He has one other patriot ancestor, named James Ackerman. Patriot Ackerman served in New York as a Private.

REMEMBERING JAMES GILLESPIE HIRSH

James Gillespie Hirsh of St. Paul died peacefully at his summer home in Ocean City, NJ, on August 28, 2017 surrounded by his family. He was 79 years old.

Hirsh was born in Philadelphia, attended Germantown Friends in Philadelphia, Princeton University, Penn Law School and received an MBA at the University of Minnesota. He worked for 28 years in the IDS/American Express Law Department. Jim served his country as a Captain in Princeton's ROTC and the Army Reserve.

For many years he was active on the boards of the Cass Gilbert Society and the Ramsey Hill Association of St. Paul. He was also a member of the SAR. He enjoyed exercising, travel, annual hikes in Europe with his friends, and sailing in Minnesota, New Jersey and Florida. Jim was a life-long learner. He was fluent in French and an avid reader.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Debra (Pierce) and children, Katherine (Robert Smith), Elizabeth (Chad Heider).

*Published in Pioneer Press
on October 8, 2017*



2018 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve another year for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter or the Saint Paul Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 Vice President:Dennis Garvin Croonquist
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Registrar:.....Arthur Louis Finnell, P.P.
 Genealogist & Assist. Registrar: ..William Leslie DeCoursey, P.P.
 Chancellor:Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
 Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
 Librarian:.....Stephen John Vescelus
 Surgeon:George Floyd Smith, M.D.
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Sergeant-at-Arms:Thomas Christopher Harris

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

Hon. David S. Bouschor	James Fredrick Foster
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.	COL Ronald E. McRoberts
Curtis John Oliver	John Charles Sassaman
Larry Wray Sisk	Marvin Eugene Stonecipher
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Robert Wayne Allison	Charles Edward Boyles
Tracy Ashley Crocker	David Adriance Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	James Everett Hagen
Steven James Hyde	Marvin Lane Jansma
William Raymond Johnson	Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
John David McCallum	Robert Arthur Minish
Christopher Willard Moberg	Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
Aaron Hale Printup	LTC Allen Dean Shepersky
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen Paul Thompson

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2019:John Hallberg Jones, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2020:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
 Trustee ending January 2021:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Houston, TX, in July 2018

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Peter Arrott Dixon
 Alternate National Trustee MN:....Dr. David Eugene Schrader

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:.....Aaron Hale Printup
 Vice President:Steven James Hyde
 Secretary-Treasurer:.....John Hallberg Jones
 Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
 Board of Managers:.....Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 Tracy Ashley Crocker
 Timothy Charles Harris

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

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
 William Leslie DeCoursey
 Arthur Louis Finnell
 Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
 Hon. William Raymond Johnson
 Robert Edward Kahl, II
 Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
 Rehn Douglas Smith
 Hon. Paul Kent Theisen
 Larry Larson Warren

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER SAR

President.....Dennis Garvin Croonquist
 Vice PresidentDavid Adriance Foster
 Secretary-TreasurerTimothy Charles Harris
 ChaplainThomas Christopher Harris
 Board of Managers.....John Charles Sassaman
 Charles Edward Boyles
 John David McCallum

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 17, 2018. Our speaker will be COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, Ph.D. Past President MNSAR. His topic will be "The Southern Campaign of the American Revolution" Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday June 21, 1778

BRITISH EVACUATE PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – There had been little, if any, rejoicing in the British Army at Philadelphia when Sir Henry Clinton succeeded Howe in the chief command. Although Sir William had failed to crush the Rebellion, he was still popular with the younger officers and especially the men, who were conscious of his bravery and his concern for their welfare. But Clinton, the cold, colorless careerist, could never have been popular in such a way. Thus it was remembered more against him that he had failed at Charleston than that he had succeeded at Forts Clinton and Montgomery and, with any help from Howe, might have saved Burgoyne.

In truth Sir Henry Clinton did not inspire loyalty. Judge Thomas Jones, the Tory chronicler, spoke of him as “haughty, morose, churlish, stupid and scarcely ever to be spoken with.” William Franklin carried the uncomplimentary caricature further: “The commander in chief is gallant to a proverb, and possesses great military knowledge in the field, but he is weak, irresolute, unsteady, vain, incapable of forming any plan himself, and too weak, or rather too proud and conceited to follow that of another.” Short and stout, with a full round face, large nose and tight and disdainful little mouth, he quarreled with his senior officers while keeping subordinates at a distance and sought solace in the bottle and the arms of easy women.

After Howe’s departure, Clinton had to face two difficult problems: what to do with the three thousand Philadelphia Tories who would become destitute refugees once he had evacuated the city and whether to obey Germain’s orders to proceed to New York by sea. On the first count, he knew that he certainly could not take all the Loyalists aboard the transports, and because he was not a very sympathetic man he was inclined to regard them as a nuisance, now that their comfortable homes and great estates were no longer of any use. He also seems to have considered advising them to make their peace with the rebels, now that Washington had proposed to Congress an amnesty through which they could swear allegiance to the new nation. Such was Clinton’s lack of understanding that he could not comprehend the Loyalists’ fierce rejection of such a course. They well knew that an official pardon would be but a fragile shield against the hatred of their neighbors. At the utmost, they would be tolerated, and if the war ended in a Patriot victory, they would be scorned as supporters of a traitorous cause.

But Clinton’s solution of this first problem of the Tories was made for him by his response to the second: whether to proceed to New York by land or by sea. The water route would expose Britain’s only army in America not only to storms or calms, but also to the Comte

d’Estaing’s fleet, which was approaching America with twelve ships of the line, a squadron of frigates and four thousand infantry. A storm could scatter Clinton’s ships so that Admiral Lord Howe could not possibly defend them all; a calm could so delay them that Washington might be free to attack New York. In the end Clinton decided to move his army by land across New Jersey by way of New Brunswick, while the ships carried his great guns and the Tories with their possessions.

Thus for the third time in nineteen months the sidewalks of Philadelphia were heaped high with the property of refugees: furniture, china and silver, clothing, paintings, even the equipage of the carriage houses, all to be transported to the waterfront or sold at auction. Every available wheeled vehicle was pressed into the service of this traffic of sorrow moving woefully to and from the wharves and warehouses. Although these unfortunate people, whose costly loyalty to the Crown never was fully appreciated, had been granted ample space for their goods and chattels, they were still confined to quarters below decks, and as the loaded transports dropped one by one down the river, there to anchor and await completion of the loading operation, they suffered from the mosquitoes and heat of a typical American tidewater summer. Once the evacuation fleet was in movement, Clinton’s

march by land began.

With the thoroughness and organizational skill that were Sir Henry’s chief abilities, he had prepared carefully for the departure. Redoubts were built at Cooper’s Creek, on the New Jersey side of the Delaware, to hold a beachhead to protect the troops arriving on that bank. From five to six hundred sailors spent a week ferrying the army’s five thousand horses and their wagons across the river, followed by the siege guns left in their fortifications until the night before the evacuation. Two nights earlier the shipyards were set afire, consuming nearby houses as well.

Each soldier carried four days’ cooked rations in his pack, while the wagons were loaded with twenty days of supplies. Although the distance to New York was only about ninety miles, it was over difficult terrain – what is called “cross-hatched” with highly defensible rivers and hills – occupied by what was now an almost totally hostile population. Progress as slow and careful as five miles a day could well consume all their supplies.

There would also almost certainly be the danger of Washington hovering on Clinton’s flanks, looking for that moment of unrivaled military opportunity: a fatal gap or confusion in the line of an army on the march.

Washington’s army now numbered about 11,800 men, including the sick, wounded and otherwise disabled. His es-

timate of Clinton's strength at about ten thousand was much too low. Clinton's forces were close to twice that number, although the disaffection of deserters at the departure of Howe had seriously depleted his ranks. Two battalions of Germans from Anspach were considered so unreliable that they were put aboard the transports, and many of the Hessian and British soldiers who had married local girls – especially the Germans, with their fondness for Pennsylvania Dutch belles – had “gone over the hill.” When the army marched to the embarkation point on the morning of June 18, 1778, Clinton commanded about fifteen thousand men.

This amphibious withdrawal – another highly dangerous military movement – was handled skillfully by Admiral Howe's fleet. A year before at Head of Elk, Admiral Howe had efficiently and with high hopes landed his brother's army; now, with the same skill but with some regret, he was withdrawing it from abandoned Philadelphia. By ten o'clock the last redcoat had reached the New Jersey shore, not too long before Light-Horse Harry Lee and his cavalry galloped down to the landing on the Pennsylvania side. That night Colonel Daniel Morgan rode through

the Quaker City proclaiming a curfew: all persons found abroad after midnight would be arrested.

Next day, on June 19, 1778, Benedict Arnold rode into Philadelphia as the military commander of the city and its environs. Still unable to mount a horse or to move erect except with the use of crutches, his wounded leg two inches shorter than the other, he had been compelled to come in a coach with his foot propped up on a pillow. Such confinement did nothing to detract from the splendor of his entrance, for his magnificent coach-and-four was easily the most elegant in the city as it rolled over the streets behind a parade of Massachusetts Continentals. Surrounding it were the high-spirited horses of his aides, resplendent in their braided uniforms, while other coaches containing his liveried servants followed.

Such display somewhat startled the thousands of ecstatic Patriots who lined the streets to welcome their liberators. Most of them had always associated elegance and luxury with those treacherous Tories, who, now that Clinton's army was gone, were deliciously at their mercy. It would be more seemly for a true Patriot to ride in a plain and open carriage.

Arnold was himself startled

to see that the faces of many of the welcoming Patriots were pinched with hunger. Then he was appalled at the devastation he beheld. The city's neat squares and commons had been churned into a mixture of mud, horse manure and debris. Whole blocks of houses in neighborhoods on the southern, western and northern edges of the city had been knocked down for firewood, and almost all fences had been similarly consumed. In the cemeteries, where horses had been exercised, the turf was torn up and gravestones were overturned, while churches were stripped of their pews and pulpits to heat both barracks and billet. All the furnishings of Independence Hall had been burned to warm the bodies of five companies of artillery stationed there, while above them all windows and shutters were nailed shut to contain American prisoners of war, and in the basement below, others were confined behind locked doors. In the now-infamous potter's field nearby were the long, shallow mass graves of some two thousand of the miserable Yankees who had died in captivity. Every street, it seemed, was lined with abandoned, broken-down vehicles standing among the rotting carcasses of horses that were still yoked to their traces.

But then, this horrid scene of sights, sounds and smells offensive to those three senses suddenly changed as though an angel's wand had been waved over it. Arnold's coach had entered what might be described as Torytown: a square mile enclave of handsome mansions, many of them built of red-and-black brick with classic pediments over the windows, surrounded by formal gardens and orchards and “commodious” living quarters that were once occupied by the slaves and indentured servants of the wealthy Quakers and Loyalists who lived there. One of these houses was occupied by Judge Edward Shippen, IV, scion of one of the oldest families in Pennsylvania, hereditary allies of that William Penn who had founded both the colony and its capital city.

On June 20 George Washington set his army in motion for the New Jersey hills, convinced now that New York, rather than the South, was Clinton's objective. As he left Valley Forge, surrounded by a guard of fifty troopers with drawn sabers, his head was still visible above theirs.

Sources:

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

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2018



2018 Annual Washington Day Luncheon

February 18, 2017 – Minneapolis, Minnesota – 37 members of the Minnesota Society, along with 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. The total attendance was 64. Jax Café had prepared their signature Chicken Chardonnay for the group, with a vegetarian alternative for those desiring such, and a delightful Fruit Tart dessert.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented three special awards and announced three additional ones: The Bronze Color Guard Medal and Certificate was presented to Steven Hyde. The same award was mailed to John Sassaman and Aaron Printup who were out of town. The Meritorious Service Medal was presented to Paul Kent Theisen, and the Patriot Medal to John Sassaman and Ronald McRoberts.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

.....

Annual George Washington
Observance and Luncheon

.....

Military Lessons from the
Southern Campaign of 1778-1781

.....

American Eagle

.....

New MNSAR Members

.....

Minnesota Eagle Scout Wins First
Runner-up at NSSAR Competition

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MILITARY LESSONS FROM THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN 1778-1781

COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, Past President General, North Central District NSSAR and Past President of both the Minnesota Society SAR and Minnesota SR brought a fascinating and thorough presentation about British Generals Clinton and Cornwallis's fateful Southern Campaign culminating in their surrender at Yorktown.

McRoberts started his dissertation by citing *On War*, a book by Prussian general Carl von Clausewitz (1780–1831), written mostly after the Napoleonic wars, between 1816 and 1830. Among many strands of thought, three stand out as essential to Clausewitz's concept:

- War is not merely a political act, but also a real political instrument, a continuation of political commerce, a carrying out of the same by other means.
- The military objectives in war that support one's political objectives fall into two broad types: "war to achieve limited aims" and war to "disarm" the enemy: "to render him politically helpless or militarily impotent."
- All else being equal, the course of war will tend to favor the party with the stronger emotional and political motivations, but especially the defender.

The British still dreamed of a mass Loyalist uprising that would turn the war decisively in their favor. Sir Henry Clinton believed that the South was Toryland. He would use Savannah as a base to conquer the Carolinas and then Virginia, after which, with his army augmented by a huge influx of Tories, he would move to

reduce the North in similar detail.

In December, 1779 General Clinton embarked from New York with the fleet of Admiral Marriot Arbuthnot – 8,700 men on board ninety transports and ten warships.

On May 12, 1780, after a six-week siege at Charlestown, SC, General Benjamin Lincoln surrendered 5,400 men, 6,000 muskets, and 400 cannon to General Henry Clinton. This was the biggest disaster to befall American arms in the war and the largest American capitulation until the fall of Bataan in 1942. Clinton returned to New York, leaving General Charles Cornwallis the theater commander in his absence.

On May 29, British forces under Lieutenant Banastre Tarleton encountered an American force at Waxhaws Creek, SC. Tarleton offered "No Quarter" to American forces trying to surrender. The American sustained losses of 113 killed, 150 wounded and 203 captured compared to British losses of three killed and 12 wounded.

The Continental Congress responded by appointing the hero of Saratoga, General Horatio Gates, Commander of the Southern Department. On August 16, General Gates engaged the British forces under Charles Cornwallis at Camden, SC. Gates erred grievously by placing his militias along the center and left flank where they opposed some of the best regiments in the British army. During the rout, Gates himself spurred his horse and ignominiously galloped off at the first sign of disaster, not stopping until he reached Charlotte, 60 miles away. Ameri-

can losses were estimated at 240 killed and over 800 wounded; Cornwallis lost a trifling 68 killed and 256 wounded.

On October 7, American forces under Colonels William Campbell, Isaac Shelby, Benjamin Cleveland, and John Sevier entrapped a large body of Loyalists under Major Patrick Ferguson at King's Mountain, SC. After Ferguson was killed the loyalists tried to surrender but were dealt a taste of "Tarleton's Quarter," and several were shot down before the colonels could restore order. Ferguson's entire force was annihilated.

On December 3, 1780 General Nathanael Greene arrived in Charlotte, NC to assume command of the Southern Department from the disgraced General Horatio Gates. With only 2,500 Continentals and militia he boldly initiated offensive operations against larger British forces. Disregarding the risks, General Greene daringly split his forces by sending General Daniel Morgan and 600 men on a wide sweep through South Carolina. He was at liberty to attack the rear of General Cornwallis's army to buy time.

On January 17, 1781, Colonel Banastre Tarleton and 1,100 troops caught up to General Daniel Morgan's forces at Cowpens, SC. As anticipated, he immediately attacked without proper reconnaissance and plunged headlong into the trap awaiting him. The first and second lines of Morgan's militia fired skillfully and retired, knocking down many officers. The British, though staggered, came on and engaged the vet-

eran Continentals who suddenly feigned a retreat and gave ground. At a given signal, Morgan's regulars suddenly turned around and delivered a point-blank volley into the disorganized pursuers, which stunned them. The cavalry then charged over the hill and flanked the British. It was a superbly executed double envelopment and Tarleton's army literally disintegrated. Cowpens was an American tactical masterpiece and a crushing blow to General Cornwallis, who had lost his remaining light troops.

General Cornwallis doggedly pursued American forces under General Greene. On March 15, Cornwallis finally confronted General Greene's larger American force at Guilford Courthouse. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse was a dearly bought British victory; Cornwallis lost 93 killed and 439 wounded – one-fourth of his army. Cornwallis was unable to sustain such attrition and abandoned his conquest of North Carolina. They marched to Wilmington, 200 miles distant and eventually into Virginia.

On July 20, General Cornwallis was ordered by General Henry Clinton to march to Williamsburg, VA, on the coast. Once there he was to establish a strong base from which his army could be supplied and reinforced from the sea. He arrived at Yorktown at the tip of the Virginia peninsula on August 1, and began entrenching. On September 12, Admiral Thomas Graves concluded that he was badly outnumbered by the French and he sailed back to New York to gather reinforcements. This single



REMEMBERING TWO LONGTIME MEMBERS OF THE MNSAR

act forfeited control of the sea to the allies; British forces under General Cornwallis are now sealed within their works at Yorktown by Admiral Francois-Joseph-Paul, comte de Grasse. By September 14, advance elements of the combined armies under Generals George Washington and Jean-Baptiste, comte de



Rochambeau, reached Virginia and were transported to Williamsburg by French naval units. The massed Franco-American force formally occupied the outer ring of General Cornwallis's defenses and planted their siege artillery and started digging trenches.

On October 14, a combined assault under Colonels Alexander Hamilton and Guillaume de Deux-Ponts captured Redoubt Nos. 9 and 10 in Yorktown's defenses. Both readouts were incorporated into the allied siege lines, which allowed additional cannon to be mounted at even closer range. On October 19, 1781 the British formally surrendered 8,081 men of the Yorktown garrison effectively ending the Revolutionary War.

COL. McRoberts used his unique perspective, having been a military planner in the army, to impart military lessons learned during the Southern campaign of 1778-1781.

The British did not win the hearts and minds of the American populous when Lieutenant Ban-

astre Tarleton offered "No Quarter" to American forces trying to surrender. Many Tories, after Ferguson's defeat at Kings Mountain, had grown timid and faint of heart, which meant that the British army could not afford another loss of face.

To use Carl von Clausewitz's term, "Center of Gravity" – even though General Greene's army was weaker than Cornwallis's, his enterprising spirit made him more important. The center of gravity lay with him, and he pulled the other forces in his direction.

For the most part, the British engaged in military action with no thought of the political impact to the Southern loyalists. The American's were victorious in only two battles yet won the war without defeating the British army.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac, by John C. Fredriksen, Infobase Publishing, 2006

Curtis John Oliver, of Brooklyn Park passed away January 29, 2018 after a long, courageous battle with cancer. Curtis was 74 years old. He was survived by his spouse, Gail Hanson. Curtis was a longtime member of the Minnesota Society SAR and the Minnesota society of the War of 1812.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6, 2018 at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church. It will include some of his compositions as a special tribute.

Published in the StarTribune on February 4, 2018

Roger V. Young of St. Paul was called home on January 31, 2018. He was 66 years old. Roger was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Irene. He was survived by his devoted, loving brother, Allen. Roger was a longtime member of the Minnesota Society SAR, Minnesota Society of the War of 1812, Minnesota Branch of the National Pilgrim Society, and St. Agnes Men's Club. He was a participant at the Ally People Solutions for 40 plus years. A solemn High Requiem Mass Extraordinary was held at The Church of St. Agnes on Tuesday, February 6.

Published in the Pioneer Press on February 4, 2018

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members were welcomed during the Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. SAR Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented a certificate and rosette to new member Kenneth Hatch. Other new member certificates were mailed to the recipients who were not in attendance. Robert Allison was presented a star for his approved supplemental application. The member rosette was presented to James Stuart who was attending his first SAR meeting.

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
Stephen Dean Goodrich.....	Stephen Goodrich
Timothy Wayne Coats	Nicholas Blankenship
Daniel Ryan Coats	Nicholas Blankenship
Bryan Thomas Coats	Nicholas Blankenship
Kenneth Roy Hatch	Nathan Hatch

The Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on September 22, 2018. Michael Moses will speak about the Battle of Germantown. Watch for detailed information to be mailed.



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



Wyatt S. Hahn, of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America, represented the MNSAR in the national competition of the Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. The national winners are:

- First Place: Missouri Society – \$10,000
- First Runner-up: Minnesota Society – \$6,000
- Second Runner-up: Florida Society – \$4,000
- The next seven entries with the highest scores each received \$200.

A Minnesota Eagle Scout has either won, placed or showed at the national level by the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Committee eight times since 2002!

CONGRATULATIONS WYATT!

Wyatt, from Hutchinson, 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. Wyatt read his patriotic essay which is presented below.

Wyatt'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 \$6,000 scholarship.

The Role of Medicine in the Revolutionary War, by Wyatt S. Hahn – 2017 MNSAR Eagle Scout Contest Winner

The Revolutionary War not only included many events which made it famous such as the Battle of Lexington and Concord, the Battle of Saratoga, and the Siege of Yorktown, but also included people like George Washington, Charles Cornwallis, and Nathanael Greene. As with other wars, there are many people who were forgotten who actually made large contributions to the success of the army. Although medicine was not very advanced during the American Revolution, physicians, surgeons, and nurses all played a very important role especially as the Continental Army weathered a long and cold winter at Valley Forge between 1777 and 1778.

Giving a brief history of medicine during American Revolution is important to understanding the actions taken over the course of the war. The

most common medicines used in the revolutionary time period included opium tinctures, calomel, a mercury compound, cream of tartar, and lavender spirits. One of the most common and advanced practices of preventing a disease, such as smallpox, was called inoculation. Inoculation was the deliberate infection of individuals who did not have a disease in order to build immunity to it. The British army often sent troops infected with smallpox to the Colonial Army which resulted in an American death rate of 20 to 25 percent. George Washington called for all his troops to be inoculated, which lowered his death rates from 17 percent to 1 percent. Washington's idea to put a poison in the body to reach a cure was brilliant because it is the beginning of what we do for cancer today. As for medical training, doctors usually did not

attend twelve to fifteen years of schooling as they do today, but often times simply spent a couple of years as an apprentice to a senior physician before beginning a practice of their own.

The need for hospitals grew drastically at the beginning of the war and four districts of hospitals. Four hospital districts were created: the Eastern, Northern, Middle, and Southern. Conditions at these hospitals were poor and inadequate. Pay each day for the attending physicians was \$6.00 and nine rations for the General Director, \$4.00 and six rations for the Senior Surgeon, and \$1.00 and two rations for the Surgeon's mate.

As winter fell on Valley Forge in 1777, the first record of any sickness came on December 23. On this day George Weedon, who always kept a very orderly journal, made the first comments regarding sol-

diers who had fallen ill. The journal stated that on December 26, 1777, "2,898 men were reported sick or unfit for duty largely due to the lack of clothing." Then again on February 1 of the next year, the journal spoke that, "the number of incapacitated increased to 3,989, again traced to the need of clothing." As numbers of those ill continued to rise and weather conditions worsening, the physicians at Valley Forge did all they could to prevent a complete wipeout of the entire army.

The behind the scenes medicine which took place during the American Revolution played a major role in the success as well as strategy of the armies. Because of this, the physicians can be seen as the forgotten heroes who made an impact on the outcome of the American Revolution.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday June 29, 1778

BATTLE OF MONMOUTH COURT HOUSE FOUGHT TO A DRAW

Monmouth Court House, New Jersey – Yesterday, General Washington’s reinvigorated army had proved themselves the equal of the best British professionals during the Battle of Monmouth Court House.

On June 19, following the British evacuation of Philadelphia, General Washington, alert to General Henry Clinton’s intentions, roused the Continental army and decamped from Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. He marched 14,500 men to intercept the fleeing British.

On June 25 he learned that British troops were approaching the tiny crossroads village of Monmouth Court House and deputized General Charles Lee to lead the offensive. (In April Washington had been rejoined by Lee, who was released in a prisoner exchange after sixteen months of captivity in New York.) When Lee balked at the assignment as beneath his lofty dignity, fit only for a “young volunteering general,” Washington handed the job to Lafayette, who would command the vanguard force to harry the British rear. “The young Frenchman, in raptures with his command and burning to distinguish himself, moves toward the enemy who are in motion,” the aide James McHenry wrote in his diary. Suddenly afraid that Lafayette would steal his glory, Lee informed Washington that he had reconsidered. “They say that a corps consisting of six thousand men, the greater part chosen, is undoubtedly the most honorable

command next to the Commander in Chief; that my ceding it would of course have an odd appearance;” he wrote with considerable understatement. “I must entreat therefore... that, if this detachment does march, that I may have the command of it.” If he did not get the command, Lee asserted, he would be disgraced, which meant he might have to resign.

Whatever Washington thought of Lee’s attempts to gratify his own self importance, he couldn’t afford a feud with his second in command on the eve of battle, even if Lee had shown little sympathy for the planned attack. On the other hand, he didn’t wish to disappoint Lafayette. So he crafted a nice compromise, adding one thousand men to the operation and placing Lafayette under Lee’s nominal command. As James McHenry wrote, “To prevent disunion, Lee is detached with two brigades to join the Marquis and as senior officer to the command. His detachment consists of 5,000 men, four-fifths of whom were picked for this service.”

On June 27, as the British reached the vicinity of Monmouth Court House, the advance American forces pulled to within six miles of the tail end of their column. Meeting with his generals, Washington ordered Lee to attack the British column the next morning, as soon as it sprang into motion. He himself would hang in the rear with six thousand men, prepared to move forward with the main body of the army.

Around dawn Washington learned that the British Army had risen early and was already marching toward Sandy Hook. He sent orders for General Lee “to move on and attack them unless there should be very powerful reasons to the contrary,” and started toward Monmouth Court House with his men. Washington recommended that Lee’s men jettison their packs and blankets to accelerate their speed. Unfamiliar with the local topography, Lee found himself penetrating terra incognita, a problem that had troubled the Continental Army in previous contests. On this morning of brutal weather, the temperature would zoom close to one hundred degrees, and many men stripped off their shirts and rode bare-chested. Private Joseph Plumb Martin opined that “the mouth of a heated oven seemed to me to be but a trifle hotter than this ploughed field; it was almost impossible to breathe.”

Toward noon, as his main force advanced toward Monmouth Court House, Washington couldn’t see what was happening up ahead and assumed that all was going according to plan. In reality, Lee had made only a confused, halfhearted attack against the British Generals Clinton and Cornwallis who, anticipating a possible attack, had concentrated their finest soldiers in the rear. They turned the tables, gathered six thousand men, and chased back the outnumbered Americans, who fell back in terror. Washington’s first inkling of disaster

came when a farmer told him that American troops were retreating. Having received no report from Lee himself, Washington was at first incredulous. Then a frightened young fifer who was hustled into his presence assured him that “the Continental troops that had been advanced were retreating.” Washington was shocked. Fearful that a false report might trigger chaos, Washington categorically warned the boy that “if he mentioned a thing of the sort, he would have him whipped.”

Taking no chances, Washington spurred his horse toward the front. He had not gone fifty yards when he encountered several soldiers who corroborated that the entire advance force was now staggering back in confused retreat. Soon Washington saw increasing numbers of men, dazed and exhausted from the stifling heat, tumbling toward him. He told aides that he was “exceedingly alarmed” and could not figure out why Lee had not notified him of this retreat. Then Washington looked up and saw the culprit himself riding toward him: General Lee, trailed by his dogs. “What is the meaning of this, sir?” Washington demanded truculently. “I desire to know the meaning of this disorder and confusion!” According to some witnesses, it was one of those singular moments when Washington showed undisguised wrath. Indignant, Lee stared blankly at him and spluttered in amazement. “Sir? Sir?” he asked, offended by Washington’s tone.

To his self-serving view of events, Lee believed that he had performed a prodigious feat, rescuing his overmatched army from danger and organizing an orderly retreat. "The American troops would not stand the British bayonets," he insisted to Washington. "You damned poltroon," Washington rejoined, "you never tried them!" Always reluctant to resort to profanities, the chaste Washington cursed at Lee "till the leaves shook on the tree;" recalled General Scott. "Charming! Delightful! Never have I enjoyed such swearing before or since. Lafayette said it was the only time he ever heard Washington swear. Lee, babbling incoherently, tried to explain to Washington that he found himself facing the British on an open plain, making his men easy prey for British cavalry. Washington brusquely dismissed Lee's reminder that he had opposed the attack in the first place: "All this may be very true, sir, but you ought not to have undertaken it unless you intended to go through with it!" In retrospect, Washington had trusted too much to an erratic general who had supported the mission only reluctantly, and he now banished him to the rear. Lafayette said of Washington's encounter with Lee that "no one had ever before seen Washington so terribly excited; his whole appearance was fearful." This was the temperamental side of Washington that he ordinarily kept well under wraps.

Washington now moved toward the front and learned that the brunt of the enemy forces would arrive in fifteen minutes. As Trench Tilghman recalled, Washington "seemed at a loss, as he was on a piece of ground entirely strange to him." The battlefield was an idyllic spot of steeply rolling farmland, split down the middle by deep ravines and creeks. Though spontaneity was never

his strong suit, Washington reacted with undisputed flair and sure intuition. Fired up with anger as well as courage, he instructed Anthony Wayne to hold the enemy at bay with two nearby regiments while he rallied the confused rout of men. Commanding as always on horseback, he succeeded in stemming the panic through pure will. When he asked the men if they would fight, they loudly responded with three lusty cheers – a novel occurrence in Washington's experience, suggesting the deep affection he inspired after the shared sacrifice at Valley Forge. His cool presence emboldened his men to resist the approaching British bayonets and cavalry charges. All the while American artillery shelled the British from a nearby ridge. Lafayette stood in awe of Washington's feat: "His presence stopped the retreat... His graceful bearing on horseback, his calm and deportment which still retained a trace of displeasure... were all calculated to inspire the highest degree of enthusiasm... I had never beheld so superb a man." Sometimes critical of Washington's military talents, Hamilton ratified Lafayette's laudatory appraisal: "I never saw the general to so much advantage. His coolness and firmness were admirable... He directed the whole with the skill of a master workman." Generals Stirling and Greene particularly distinguished themselves during the action, although Washington reserved his highest praise for Brigadier General Anthony Wayne, "whose good conduct and bravery through the whole action deserves particular commendation."

The bloody battle that afternoon was a fierce seesaw struggle that took many casualties on both sides. For two hours in blazing heat, British and Continentals exchanged cannon fire.

As in previous battles, Washington experienced narrow escapes. While he was deep in conversation with one officer, a cannonball exploded at his horse's feet, flinging dirt in his face; Washington kept talking as if nothing had happened. He was everywhere on horseback, forming defensive lines, urging on his men, and giving them the chance to display the marching skills acquired at Valley Forge under General Von Steuben. Lines of patriot soldiers fired muskets with discipline not seen before. Several times the well-trained Americans withstood vigorous charges by British regulars. Earlier in the day Washington had ridden a white charger, a gift from Governor Livingston of New Jersey. As the battlefield turned into a furnace, this beautiful horse suddenly dropped dead from the heat. At that point Billy Lee trotted up with a chestnut mare, which Washington rode for the duration.

In this marathon, day long battle, the fighting ground on until six in the afternoon. Though tempted to pursue the British, Washington bowed to the exhausted state of his men and decided to wait until morning to storm enemy positions. Clinton pulled his men back half a mile, beyond the range of American artillery. To keep his weary troops ready, Washington had them sleep on their arms in the field, ready to resume their offensive at daybreak. They inhabited a battlefield strewn with blood-spattered bodies. That night Washington draped his cloak on the ground beneath a sheltering tree, and he and Lafayette sat up chatting about Charles Lee's insubordination before falling asleep side by side. They could see campfires burning on the British side, unaware that it was a ruse used by Clinton to camouflage the British Army stealing off at

midnight. At daybreak Washington awoke and realized that the British had quietly drifted away, headed for New York. He had been tricked by the same gimmick that he himself had employed at Brooklyn and at Trenton. With his men spent from battle, Washington knew it was pointless to trail after the fleeing British.

Both sides claimed victory after the battle, and the best casualty estimates show something close to a draw: 362 killed, wounded, or missing Americans, versus British casualties that ranged anywhere from 380 to 500. After the drubbing at Brandywine Creek and Germantown, Washington may be forgiven for crowing about Monmouth as a "glorious and happy day." Having weathered the horrendous winter at Valley Forge, American soldiers, with new elan, had proved themselves the equal of the best British professionals. In general orders for June 29, Washington trumpeted the battle as an unadulterated triumph: "The Commander in Chief congratulates the army on the victory obtained over the arms of his Britannic Majesty yesterday and thanks most sincerely the gallant officers and men who distinguished themselves upon the occasion." Washington's joy at the outcome owed much to the fact that he had rescued the army from a disaster in the making.

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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.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2018



128TH SAR NATIONAL CONGRESS REPORT by David Schrader

Houston, Texas – The Annual National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution was held from Friday, August 13 to Wednesday, August 18, 2018. The weather was not made for Minnesotans. It was terribly hot and just as humid.

A number of patriots joined together for tours of NASA, the George H. W. Bush Presidential Library, the San Jacinto Battlefield, or the Houston Museum District. Sandy and I passed up the tours in favor of air conditioned hotel rooms. The Host Society Reception was held about a half hour west of Houston at the George Ranch Historic Park, featuring great barbecue, good fellowship, and good music.

Continued on page 4...

MNSAR members, Michael Schenk (also Mississippi Society) and David Schrader (also Massachusetts Society).

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





MNSAR COLOR GUARD SUPPORTING THE WAYZATA CHAPTER, C.A.R. AND 2018 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

Wayzata Chapter C.A.R. Annual Independence Day Event

Wayzata, Minnesota – The annual Fourth of July Flying Pancake Breakfast celebrating American Independence and also honoring US military veterans was again held at the historic depot in Wayzata, on the shore of Lake Minnetonka. This is a major event each year for the Wayzata Chapter of the Minnesota Children of the American Revolution and it has grown in popularity over the years. This year over 1,200 people attended.

Supporting the C.A.R. project were members of the Lake Minnetonka Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the 7th Pennsylvania re-enactment group and the Color Guard of the Minnesota Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Mayor Ken Willcox of Wayzata was emcee of a short program to honor veterans.

The annual event features the “Flying Pancakes” where recipients stand back as their pancakes are tossed from the

grill onto their plates. For more photos of the event go to the MNSAR Color Guard Blog at <https://sarmnmcg.blogspot.com/>

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

The Minnesota Society presented ROTC and JROTC awards in all the 7 senior units and 12 junior units in Minnesota. The following members represented the MNSAR and presented the awards at the proper ceremonies:

Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, Hon. William Raymond Johnson, MAJ Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, Christopher Willard Moberg, Marvin Lane Jansma, Christopher John Pizinger, LTC Allen Dean Shepersky, David Adriance Foster, Michael Ronald Bradley, John Charles Sassaman, Dennis Garvin Croonquist, and John Hallberg Jones

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter presented Bronze Good Citizenship Medals to students

from 24 Minneapolis High Schools and one Naval Sea Cadet Squadron. This is one of the largest programs of any chapter in the nation.

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.

Flag Certificates

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

- Dick Petkoff State Farm Insurance Agent, Roseville
- Klecatsky and Sons Funeral Home, Eagan
- North Star Bank, Roseville
- Old National Bank, St. Paul
- TruStone Financial Federal Credit Union, Roseville

Minneapolis SAR President

Aaron Hale Printup presented a flag certificate to Orono Student Charlie Kieley of Charliescustomflags Kieley. Charlie makes American flag art out of recycled wood and pallets and he has decided he would donate 20% of all profits to the wounded warrior project. Since then he has been asked to donate a flag for the folds of honor annual golf charity. He also donated 20% of the profits from an event raising money for Minnesota veterans families and other great organizations.

What an honor, as President of the Minneapolis Chapter of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and Commander of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, to present this Certificate of Commendation – and on Independence Day – to Charlie Kieley. “In recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America” Keep up the good work Charlie and Thank you!

You can check him out on Facebook: charliescustomflags Kieley



Minnesota SAR Color Guard and honored veterans at the annual C.A.R. Independence Day event. Steve Simondet, Assistant Principal of South High School, Ana Alarcon Gochez, and John Hallberg Jones. Chris Moberg at the University of Minnesota Mankato. Charlie Kieley and Minneapolis Chapter SAR President, Aaron Hale Printup.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Sunday July 5, 1778

WYOMING VALLEY MASSACRE

Forty Fort, Pennsylvania – on July 4 – to mock American Independence – Colonel Sir John Butler struck at the Wyoming Valley in Western Pennsylvania. Hundreds of Patriots perished. Men were burnt at the stake or thrown on beds of coals and held down with pitchforks while their horrified families were forced to witness their torment.

As the Revolution rolled on, the British looked for any way possible to disrupt the American Patriots' war fighting abilities. While the frontier land of the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania may not seem to be ideal land to capture, it actually is a key location. The Susquehanna River is a crucial route to move important supplies to the army as it runs all the way from New York to Maryland. In addition to the ease of transportation, the Wyoming Valley is also a leading producer of grains and other crops that could be shipped to the army. These factors combined with the presence of several sturdy forts in the area made this region a "must have" for the invading British Army.

The responsibility of taking these pivotal areas in northern Pennsylvania fell on the shoulders of 50-year-old Colonel John Butler, a Connecticut Tory. He had gained favor with the English after fighting for them in the French and Indian War. With his extensive knowledge of Indian languages, he proved himself a valuable asset in organizing and communi-

cating with the native groups. His experience in this area also made him the prime choice for the mission at hand as he was instructed to recruit as many nearby Indians as possible. The Mohawks, one of the Six Nations of Iroquois from northern New York, were the primary source of recruitment for Major Butler. A total of 500 Mohawks volunteered along with a group of 400 Tories whom Butler also recruited locally.

With this force of about 900 men, Butler now had the military power to wreak havoc along the frontier of the Wyoming Valley. His campaign began by stirring up fear in the minds of surrounding settlers. His men headed south while stopping only to burn homes, attack settlers, and to raid settlements for much needed food and valuable goods. This guerrilla warfare was well suited to the Mohawk warriors under Butler's command. Settlers were murdered in their beds, frontier cabins and lean-tos put to the torch, and children abducted. The attacks seemed to reach a climax on June 30, 1778 when the force killed eight settlers working in a corn field along the Susquehanna River.

The Wyoming Valley is a very pro-Revolution region with most of its able-bodied men already away fighting for the cause. Manpower was therefore at a premium. The officers in charge of the safety of the Wyoming Valley frontier, Colonel Zebulon Butler (no relation to the British commander) and Colonel Nathan



Denison, were well aware of this fact. Colonel Butler was on leave from his position as lieutenant colonel in the 3rd Connecticut Continental Regiment and he was extremely wary of the task at hand. They were given only 400 militiamen to defend the entire Wyoming Valley from pending invasion. In many cases, the men who volunteered were older than ideal for the combat they were about to experience. These men were placed into the 24th Connecticut Militia Regiment under the joint control of both Butler and Denison.

One advantage that the Patriots did have on their side was the large presence of forts in the Wyoming Valley area. They included Wilkes-Barre Fort and Forty Fort in the south along with the northern forts of Wintermoot, Jenkins', and Pittston. These structures provided excellent defense against oncoming invaders if they were properly manned. With only 400 militia in service, however,

Zebulon Butler found it very difficult to appropriately use all the forts as they were intended. Fort Pittston had a garrison of only eight men to defend it from capture. The fort most important to the cause, however, was Forty Fort. This fort built along the Susquehanna River would be the main rallying point for Zebulon Butler and his band of Patriot militia. Upon hearing of the destruction caused by the invading Tories and Indians, Butler decided to assemble his men at Forty Fort to undertake the defense.

Colonel John Butler led his group of Mohawks and Tories into the heart of the Wyoming Valley. The force reached Wintermoot Fort in the early hours of July 1 and immediately sent an emissary requesting its surrender. Butler promised that no one inside the fort would be harmed if a prompt surrender occurred. Wintermoot quickly raised the white flag and Colonel Butler had conquered the first fort he desired. Not resting

on his laurels, the next day, Butler received news that Jenkins' Fort had also yielded to the power of his force. Having captured two forts in as many days, Butler gained confidence and demanded that all forts and militia in the area were to surrender immediately. In return for their surrender, Butler promised not to harm the militia as long as they never fought again in the War for Independence. Colonel Denison received the message from Butler and quickly assembled the militia and requested reinforcements. The response from the militia stationed at Forty Fort was determined and unified. They replied stating that they would, "never give up the fort over to the Tories and savages but stand it out to the last and defend it to the last extremity."

Hearing the news of Forty Fort's resistance, Colonel John Butler devised a plan to lure the Patriot militia out of their fortifications. He concluded that if his force left Forty Fort, the Patriots would infer that the Indians and Tories would continue to terrorize nearby communities. The garrison of men would then follow Butler's force in an attempt to protect their homes from destruction. On July 3, Colonel Butler had his men set fire to Jenkins' Fort along with several houses north

of Forty Fort in a demonstration of the destruction he was about to create. Butler and his men then left, heading back to Wintermoot Fort.

John Butler's ploy was executed perfectly and the militia was desperate to pursue the fleeing Tories and Indians. The commanding officers however were not as eager to follow. Both Colonels Zebulon Butler and Nathan Denison were of the opinion that waiting for reinforcements was their best option. Neither Butler nor Denison had any idea about the strength of their enemy and therefore elected to use caution. The men in the garrison did not agree with this decision and demanded action. They believed their homes and families were being destroyed and that attack was the only viable option. Denison and Butler soon conceded and the men headed out of the fort in pursuit. They caught up to the enemy and found the Tories in a long line behind a wood fence with the Mohawks nowhere in sight. Quickly, Butler and Denison formed their 400 militia into a single line to prepare for battle. The militia advanced upon the line of the Tories firing three volleys of musket fire with no reply from the enemy. The two enemies found themselves inching closer and closer

as the dense smoke filled the air. John Butler and his men were now ready to spring their trap. Before the Patriot militia could release their fourth volley of musket fire, the Tories let loose a volley of their own. At the same time, hundreds of Mohawk warriors came storming out of the nearby woods, enveloping the militia in brutal hand-to-hand combat. The Mohawks, carrying spears and tomahawks, were vastly more experienced and well equipped for this type of fighting. The militia's left flank began to crumble. Orders were given to refuse the line in order to create stability on the left flank, but these commands were not followed due to the confusion and panic of the situation.

The line of Patriot militia began to break and orders were given for retreat. The battle seemed to be reaching its conclusion with many militiamen escaping to safety, but the Mohawk warriors had other plans. They continued to pursue the retreating militia, scalping and slaughtering any soldier they could find. Many men made it as far as the Susquehanna River, but were either taken captive or butchered in the river. The men who were captured by the Mohawks encountered a terrible fate as they were soon tortured and tomahawked

by their captures; their scalps taken and later exchanged for a British bounty. Colonel Denison surrendered Forty Fort the next day and Colonel Butler promised not to harm any civilians in the fort. Most civilians however had packed up and left when news of the defeat reached them.

The Patriot militia experienced monumental casualties. Colonel John Butler claimed that his Indians took 227 scalps of the fleeing soldiers. Only 60 made it back to Forty Fort. Major John Butler stated, "On our side we lost one Indian killed, two rangers and eight Indians wounded." Butler defended the massacre by stating the Mohawks were out for revenge of a previous encounter between white settlers. He stated, "The Indians were so exasperated with the loss at Fort Stanwix last year that it was with difficulty I could save the lives of these few."

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html by Michael Fairchild

National Congress Report *continued from page 1*

Sunday featured the Annual Memorial Service. Business was conducted in several sessions. Several noteworthy items of business were proposed:

1. A proposal to include children by adoption in our lines of descent;
2. A proposal to decrease the cost of Memorial Memberships and other proposals regulating

- Memorial Membership;
3. A proposal that the Board of Trustees not include General Officers or Past Presidents General;
4. A proposal to expand categories of membership to include Emeritus Members. The first and third proposals were defeated by large margins. The proposals concerning Memorial Memberships were adopted by large margins. The final proposal was postponed until

next year.

Compatriots Peter Dixon and David Schrader were elected National Trustee and Alternate Trustee for the Minnesota Society. Compatriot Dixon was not able to be present at Congress. Compatriot Schrader was elected Vice President General for the New England District. Accordingly, while he will be pleased to provide reports to the Society, he will attend Trustees Meetings as Vice

President General instead of serving as Alternate National Trustee in the event of any absence on the part of Compatriot Dixon.

Next Meeting

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, September 22, 2018. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

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SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • AUTUMN 2018



ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

37 members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 51. Jax Café had prepared their signature Chicken Chardonnay for the group, with a vegetarian alternative for those desiring such, and a delightful White Chocolate Mousse with Macadamia Nuts dessert.

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard presented the colors. President Geoffrey Robert Bodeau led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and the Pledge to the SAR, and SAR Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher gave the invocation. Between courses, business matters were handled. Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones sold five copies of "MNSAR Centennial Registry", a volume published in 1989, with the proceeds going to the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund. The MNSAR was honored to have Michael Rowley, Vice-President General for the North Central District, with us (pictured with MNSAR President Bodeau). He brought warm greetings and remarks relative to the President General's incentives for state societies and chapters.

**INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...**

Annual MNSAR Constitution
Day Luncheon

Topic of the Day:
The Battle of Germantown

SAR Veterans Medal Program

New Members

American Eagle

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





TOPIC OF THE DAY AT THE CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON: THE BATTLE OF GERMANTOWN

Michael David Moses brought an excellent scholarly address on The American Revolution; the Battle of Germantown. Moses speaks to school children – mostly about his service in Viet Nam. He is a member of the MNSAR and he learned what his ancestors did to help make America.

Joseph Dunbar of the Scottish Clan Dunbar served in the Revolutionary War under Generals Anthony Wayne and John Sullivan. Dunbar was involved in the Battle of Germantown.

Moses backed up his dissertation with a Powerpoint presentation that included maps and illustrations.

During the summer of 1777 General John Burgoyne had designs to divide and conquer the Americans by marching down the Hudson valley. The British Commander, General William Howe, had his own plans – to take Philadelphia.

General Howe embarked 17,000 troops on transport ships. Washington was flummoxed as to the destination of Howe's armada. On August 22nd the Americans received positive intelligence that the British fleet had entered Chesapeake Bay. On August 25th General Howe debarked 15,000 men at Head of Elk, Maryland. On September 11, 1777 the "Redcoats" of the British Army defeated the American rebels at Brandywine Creek and forced them to withdraw northeast toward the American capital and

the largest city of Philadelphia where the Second Continental Congress had been meeting since 1775. More troops fought at Brandywine than any other battle of the American Revolution. It was also the longest single-day battle of the war, with continuous fighting for 11 hours. Howe had triumphed tactically, but Washington, though trounced, extricated his army to fight another day.

On September 26, the British occupied Philadelphia to the cheers of Loyalist inhabitants and subsequently established a camp at Germantown, six miles to the north.

General George Washington, informed by spies that General William Howe remained encamped at Germantown was determined to attack and surprise him. Various British detachments left at Philadelphia, Billingsport, and elsewhere had reduced Howe's army to 8,000 men while Washington, newly reinforced by Pennsylvania and New Jersey militia, possessed over 11,000. The Americans then devised a complicated plan to envelop and destroy Howe. Militia brigades under Generals John Armstrong and William Smallwood were to move out in a wide sweeping arc and place themselves behind Howe's right and left flanks. As it turned out, both columns proved ineffectual, either having arrived late or getting lost. The main attack upon the center was conducted by the

divisions of Generals John Sullivan and Anthony Wayne, with 3,000 men, while General Nathanael Greene marched 5,000 men to overpower the British right. Washington carefully left camp that evening and marched all night toward the British position.

The division of General John Sullivan made first contact with the enemy, pushing back British light infantry and the 40th Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Musgrave. As the Americans pressed on, Musgrave and his men occupied the two-story stone house of Loyalist Benjamin Chew and barricaded themselves. This obstacle tripped up Sullivan's attack, for General Henry Knox convinced Washington not to leave a fortified position in his rear. The Americans lacked heavy artillery, so for the next several hours the light brigade of General William Maxwell unsuccessfully attempted to storm the Chew house, taking heavy losses. Washington's movements were further complicated by the onset of a thick ground fog that reduced vision to a few yards.

The British, surprised by the ferocity of the American assault, were taken further aback when General Nathanael Greene's division suddenly burst out of the fog and hit their right flank. Troops under General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg drove the British hard, but the division of Gen-

eral Adam Stephen became separated from the main body and accidentally attacked General Anthony Wayne's men from behind. Confusion broke out in the American ranks and Howe, sensing an opportunity, ordered an advance across the field. Sullivan and Wayne slowly gave ground to forces commanded by General Charles Grey while on the right Greene lost the entire 9th Virginia Infantry under Colonel George Matthews when it was surrounded. Washington tried to rally his forces but they continued retreating and the engagement slowly wound down by 10 a.m. Howe failed to follow-up his victory. He pursued for about 10 miles before returning to camp. American losses were 152 killed (one third of them at the Chew house), 521 wounded, and 400 captured, to a British tally of 70 dead, 450 injured, and 14 missing. Washington's overly ornate strategy proved beyond the capacity of his amateur troops to perform, but they retired in good spirits.

The French Court was impressed with the tenacity of the Americans at Germantown. The stunning victory at Saratoga convinced them further to provide troops, ships and arms to the American cause. After the French Alliance the conflict became a World War.

His outstanding presentation prompted many questions and was enjoyed by all.



SAR VETERAN MEDAL PROGRAM



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution recognizes the military service of its members with an award in the form of a medal. The Minnesota Society of the SAR will coordinate application for and presentation of these medal to all its veteran members. Please send proof of service, preferably a copy of DD Form 214, to:

Ronald E. McRoberts
15111 Elmcrest Avenue North
Hugo, MN 55038
mrob001@umn.edu

Alternatively, an electronically scanned version of the proof may be sent via e-mail to mrob001@umn.edu.

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

President Geoffrey Bodeau and Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones presented certificates and rosettes to new members: Steven Harrison accepted for his sons Christopher, Jeffrey, and Andrew; Eric Wesman; Ronald Campbell; John Sassaman accepted for his brother William; Phillip Pribyl; Edward Crozier; Michael Huttner; and Thomas Scherer. Certificates have been



mailed to Peter Stelter, Michael Grund, Thomas Grund, David Smith, Channing Smith, Eric Kreager, Ethan Kreager, Thomas Baxter, William Baxter, and John Baxter. Supplemental Certificates and stars were presented to Marvin Jansma, John Sassaman (2), Robert Allison, Jacob Waters, and Michael Moses.:

NEW MEMBERS:

Member	Patriot
Christopher F. Harrison.....	Lebbeus Chapman
Jeffrey O. Harrison.....	Lebbeus Chapman
Andrew F. Harrison.....	Lebbeus Chapman
Peter L. Stelter	John DeWald
Michael J. Grund.....	Silas Stone
Thomas M. Grund.....	Silas Stone
Eric H. Wesman	Daniel Moore
Thorton H. O. Ridder *	Casparus Westervelt

* Transferred from Ohio

Ronald J. Campbell.....	Isaac Sanderson
David C. Smith.....	Gormley
Channing D. Smith.....	Gormley
Eric R. Kreager	Henry Miller
Ethan R. Kreager.....	Henry Miller
William R. Sassaman	Hermanus Sassmannhausen
Phillip J. Pribyl.....	David Whitman
Michael W. Huttner.....	Thomas Eldredge
Edward S. Crozier.....	John Croser
Thomas J. Scherer.....	Daniel Bertolet
Thomas C. Baxter	Peter Perrinne
William P. Baxter	Peter Perrinne
John A. Baxter.....	Peter Perrinne

We welcome back by transfer from Texas:
Craig W. Whiting

SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS:

Member	Patriot
Marvin L. Jansma.....	Matthew Barnum
John C. Sassaman.....	George Himmelberger
John C. Sassaman.....	Maria Magdalena Spiess
Robert W. G. Allison.....	John Carlile, Sr.
Jacob Waters	Absolom Anderson
Michael D. Moses	Thomas Starkweather

John Sassaman was presented two Oak Leaf Clusters for his Liberty Medal, along with a certificate. The Liberty Medal is presented to a compatriot who is a first line signer on ten new member applications. John Sassaman qualified as a signer on twenty new member applications during 2017.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday August 21, 1778

NEWPORT EXPEDITION ENDS IN A FIASCO

Newport, Rhode Island – On August 19, 1778 American artillery under General John Sullivan began bombarding Newport, Rhode Island, but the following day the French fleet arrived in battered condition and Admiral Charles-Hector-Theodat, comte d’Estaing declared his intention to abandon the siege and sail for Boston for repairs.

Following Monmouth, General Washington gave his army a day of rest. The men bathed in a brook, washed their clothes and cleaned their arms and equipment. Some of them took to plundering the local inhabitants, and when the inhabitants complained, Washington ordered a search of knapsacks and issued a threat of death to any man found guilty of looting.

Next Washington made for New York State, moving his army by “easy marches.” Breaking camp at three in the morning, the men marched about ten miles until the July heat compelled them to halt, when they made camp in the late morning or early afternoon. Even so the heat was intense enough to prostrate many men with heat exhaustion, while killing a few of them, as well as more horses than could be spared. Halting on the cooler banks of the Raritan River opposite New Brunswick the troops rested a few days before marching on to Paterson, where Washington and his staff picnicked on cold ham and biscuits beside the Passaic Falls, enjoying its thunder and

delightfully cool mists. From there they crossed the Hudson to join Gates’s command at White Plains. Here Washington established himself in a strong defensive position, waiting to see what Clinton, holding New York City, Staten Island and Newport would do next. He was quietly jubilant, writing, “It is not a little pleasing, nor less wonderful to contemplate that after two years maneuvering... both armies are brought back to the very point they set out from.” For three years, beset by every privation and shortage; inhibited by dissent, disorder, desertion and discontent; outnumbered and outgunned and more often than not outmaneuvered, the American army had fought the enemy to a standstill, and as vindication of his often-criticized policy of delay, there came the welcome news that the Comte d’Estaing’s fleet, led by the mighty *Languedoc* mounting ninety guns, had arrived in American waters. True, the comte’s incredibly lengthy voyage of eighty seven days – which he attributed to bad weather and “practice maneuvers” – had brought him off the Delaware ten days too late to intercept Howe’s fleet carrying Clinton’s big guns and much of his baggage or to prevent Howe from ferrying Clinton’s army to the safety of New York. With at least double the firepower of Howe’s fleet, now in New York Harbor, it is almost certain that if d’Estaing had arrived in time, he would have defeated the British at sea, and with his four thousand infantry to thicken



Washington’s army, probably would have helped to recapture New York.

All the commander in chief’s resources were at that moment directed toward recovering Newport from the British. General Sullivan, with about ten thousand men divided between Generals Greene and Lafayette, had marched north of the vital port city to rendezvous with d’Estaing’s four thousand French soldiers. But Clinton and Admiral “Black Dick” Howe acted quickly to discomfit them. Clinton collected a force of five thousand to come to the aid of General Pigot, who held Newport with about three thousand troops, while Admiral Howe, now reinforced, crowded on all sail for Rhode Island.

Hearing of Howe’s approach, d’Estaing re-embarked his troops and sailed out to meet him. Sullivan was furi-

ous, but the Frenchman would not change his mind. On the night of August 11 the ships of both fleets were scattered by a violent storm, and both had to sail away for repairs – Howe to New York and d’Estaing to Boston.

In the meantime, the French withdrawal had so disgusted Sullivan’s militia that more than five thousand of them went home. Sullivan had to backpedal furiously away from the eagerly pursuing Pigot, and the Newport expedition ended in a fiasco.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac,
by John C. Fredriksen,
Infobase Publishing, 2006

George Washington’s War
by Robert Leckie,
Harper Perennial, 1993

Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, January 12, 2019: Annual Business Meeting for MNSAR members only.

Saturday, February 16, 2019: Washington Day Luncheon – SAR & SR – open to all. **Program:** “Free Masons and the American Revolution” presented by Kevin Sullivan.

The meetings will be held at Jax Cafe.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • WINTER 2019



MNSAR President Bodeau, Secretary-Treasurer Jones and new member Thomas Boos.

MNSAR 130TH ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 12, 2019. Luncheon, from the menu, was served during the meeting.

The Society was called to order by President Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D. The MNSAR Color Guard presented the colors. President Bodeau led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Our Chaplain, Michael Scott Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Chapters conducted their business.

Continued Inside...

INSIDE THE MNSAR SALUTE...

Minnesota Society SAR
130th Annual Meeting

American Eagle

Now and Then –
Steven James Hyde

Remembering Donald Warren
Steinkraus

2019 MNSAR, Minneapolis and
Saint Paul Chapter Officers

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR ANNUAL MEETING

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Dennis Garvin Croonquist. A motion was made to forego reading the Minutes of the 13 January 2018 meeting as they were summarized in the Minnesota Society newsletter. Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris presented the Financial Report indicating assets totaling \$5,710.26.

Compatriot Harris reported that eleven area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters have been mailed to twelve Saint Paul area high schools to begin the program for 2019. The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service and an appreciation of patriotism.

Five Saint Paul businesses were presented with a flag certificate for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14, 2018.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by Vice President Steven Hyde. Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, noting total assets of \$21,318.47 as of 31 December 2018.

Compatriot Jones reported that the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented in 24 area high schools in 2018, and that the Minneapolis Chapter also had a presentation at a squadron of Naval Sea Cadets. Letters have already been mailed to all schools/units for the 2019 program. The Twin Cities Squadron Naval Sea

Cadets had their ceremony on 05 January 2019. The Minneapolis Chapter was represented by Vice President Steven Hyde.

Compatriot Jones spoke of the success of fund raising projects and the giving of scholarships by the Lake Minnetonka Society C.A.R. Upon motion passed, the Minneapolis Chapter will donate \$200.00 to the Society, a sum higher than previous years.

MNSAR Membership

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership for 2018: We started 2018 with 221 members plus 6 dual members. In 2018 there were 32 new members, 1 reinstated, 4 transferred in, 4 deaths, 2 transferred out, and 2 resignations. This brings the year-end total to 250 (plus the 6 dual members).

There are fourteen unpaid members as of the printing of this newsletter. The annual report will be filed soon, and unpaid members will be dropped if they remain unpaid.

A certificate and rosette was presented to new member Thomas as Boos, and a rosette was presented to Thomas Baxter. Other new member certificates will be mailed.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Secretary-Treasurer Jones presented the Annual Financial Report. It showed net assets of \$44,936.23 as of 31 December 2018. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund. Donations to Principal during 2018 were \$3,772.00. The Principal as of 31 December 2018 totaled \$43,819.33. The

Trustees proposed that the 2018 interest of \$465.54 be used to pay the following donation items: Minnesota Genealogical Society \$50.00, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota \$50.00, and the balance of \$365.54 to the MNSAR Veteran's Medal Project.

Minnesota Society Programs

The Eagle Scout Committee Chair, Thor Erickson, was not present and had requested that he be replaced as the committee chair. Compatriot Richard Smith volunteered to take the position and will coordinate with Thor Erickson.

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC-JROTC units in the state. Letters have already been mailed to the twelve JROTC units and the seven ROTC units in Minnesota.

Compatriot Steven Hyde, Co-Commander of the MNSAR Color Guard, presented the report on the MNSAR Color Guard. He cited questions regarding insurance if muskets were used. A hat cockade of society colors will be investigated so as to give the color guard specific identity connection to the SAR.

COL Ronald McRoberts reported on the Veteran's Medal Project. Thus far 18 have forwarded the proper credentials and materials have been ordered. They will be presented at the February meeting.

New Business

There was a good discussion as to how the SAR might coordinate/partner with the American Legion and VFW in promoting the groups. The MNSAR will investigate using the American

Legion state newsletter.

Compatriot Galles proposed a judicial collar for presentation and use of the Minnesota Supreme Court. A committee will be created to study the matter. Dr. Galles was appointed chairman of the committee. He will add members that are interested in the project.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported that in the past the MNSAR presented Bronze Good Citizenship Medals to the state President of the Minnesota C.A.R. and suggested we renew the practice. A motion passed to award Minnesota C.A.R. Presidents from 2013 to present and to carry the practice forward.

Secretary-Treasurer Jones auctioned off an interesting item – a bronze medallion issued in 2012 by NSSAR for the 225th Anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. It had been donated by COL McRoberts. The winning bid of \$50.00 will be a nice addition to the principal of the Endowment Trust Fund.

Announcement

Compatriot Jones indicated that he had accepted the office of Secretary-Treasurer of the MNSAR and the Minneapolis Chapter again and it would be his last term in office. He has held the offices for over 45 years. As such, his resignation is effective following next year's annual meeting, unless the officers determine a replacement sooner, in which case he will step down. He will assist in the transition in every way possible to assist the continuing smooth operation of the society.



NOW & THEN

Steven James Hyde has been a member of the MNSAR for six years. He is the current Vice-President of the Minnesota Society SAR and President of the Minneapolis Chapter. Steven is also Co-Commander and drummer of the MNSAR Color Guard. Steven joined the MNSAR to commemorate his Hyde ancestors, many of which were veterans, though Steven is not one. Hyde is hopeful that by joining the MNSAR, his children and future grandchildren will also join when they grow older. Steven also joined the General Society of Mayflower Descendants through pilgrim John Howland.

Steven Hyde is a native of Minneapolis. He and his wife, Theresa recently celebrated their thirtieth wedding anniversary. He met Theresa through work when they were employed at the Scott County Courthouse in Shakopee. A mutual friend Shelia Hyde introduced them. Shelia and Steven are not related but his theory is that they are seventh cousins. Steven and Theresa have a 23-year-old son, Nicholas, and twenty-year-old daughter, Josephine. His family currently resides in Lonsdale, Minnesota.

Steven enjoys a 30-years strong career as a software developer at Agiliti, a medical services company in Bloomington.

Steven's patriot ancestor is Joseph Hyde, a Private from Southwick, Massachusetts. He was born in Simsbury, Con-



necticut in 1756. He married Susannah Moore from Southwick and sired 13 children. After the Revolutionary War they moved to Hampton, New York, where he died in 1834.

Other potential supplemental Revolutionary War soldier/ancestors include First Lieutenant Aaron Barney, Massachusetts; Sergeant Israel Winchester Peck, New Hampshire; Corporal Nathaniel Wheeler, a Deacon from New Hampshire; and Private Jotham Mead, Connecticut.

There is also a family legend of a Hessian soldier – name not given, but mentioned as a grandparent of one of Steven's ancestors – who deserted the British troops and joined the Massachusetts line for seven years.

Steven has been a recognizable member of the MNSAR. It's fun to see him tapping the drum as he and the Color Guard present the Colors preceding and following our meetings.

REMEMBERING DONALD WARREN STEINKRAUS

Long time MNSAR member, Donald Warren Steinkraus passed away at his home on October 5, 2018, surrounded by loving family. Don was the penultimate optimist. He looked for the good in people and the good in the world. For all his 97 years he loved life and lived it intensely. He was never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. He was an adventurer, a musician, and an athlete. He loved a good party and a good joke. He was a romantic. He loved his wife Odney unabashedly and without reservation. Until her death on their 58th wedding anniversary, they shared a love of music, travel and spirited discourse. Before the era when fathers were encouraged to spend time with their children, Don spent quality time with his son and daughter. He taught them that nothing can be done without hope and confidence, that laughter and joy are contagious and that giving is its own reward. Throughout his life, Don gave whole-heartedly of his time, his talents and his resources. His philanthropic legacy lives on through the many and diverse programs and people he touched. He served on the boards of Children's Home Society and Camphill Village; he was a trustee of the E.M. Pearson Foundation, a director of the Deluxe Corporate Foundation and a strong supporter of numerous arts and educational programs. Don also had a successful 32 year career with Deluxe Check Printers where he made friends that spanned a life time. In his later years Don's greatest joy and solace came from spending time with family and friends at his cabin on Lake Superior. He will always be remembered for his keen sense of humor, his intellect and his generosity. He leaves us rich in memories, and richer for his example.

Published in the StarTribune on November 18, 2018

NEXT MEETING

The Annual George Washington Observance and Luncheon Meeting will be held at Jax Cafe on February 16, 2019. Our speaker will be Kevin Everett Sullivan, Vice President of the Minneapolis Chapter SAR. His topic will be "Free Masons and the American Revolution."

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution recognizes the military service of its members with an award in the form of a medal. Eighteen MNSAR veteran members will receive a medal as part of the SAR Veteran Medal Program.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Monday September 28, 1778



CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY IN COMMAND OF THE RALEIGH

Penobscot Bay, Maine – Yesterday Captain John Barry, commanding the 32-gun frigate, *Raleigh*, was attacked on the Maine coast by a British squadron consisting of the 50-gun HMS *Experiment* under Captain James Wallace and *Unicorn*, 28 guns, under Captain John Ford.

Fresh from his triumph on the Delaware, Barry received a favor from an unexpected quarter. The British, as part of their preparations to evacuate Philadelphia, had burned *Effingham*, *Washington*, and several other vessels. Realizing that Barry was too important an asset to have dry-docked, Congress immediately found him a new command: the 32-gun *Raleigh*, which anchored in Boston. Barry's new command was badly in need of repair. Several of her new cannons had burst, and her hull was fouled and damaged. After strenuous efforts, Barry and *Raleigh* finally sailed from Boston on September 25, 1778.

Not long after leaving Boston, Barry spotted two British warships on the horizon. He gave them a wide berth. At 9:30 the next morning, a lookout spotted the two enemy ships drawing near: the 50-gun *Experiment* and the 28-gun *Unicorn*. *Raleigh* was outgunned by more than two to one. For the rest of the day, Barry led his pursuers on a chase, but the wind started to drop and his pursuers began to make up ground. With night coming, Barry decided to risk an attack.

If he could beat back *Unicorn*, he should be able to outdistance the heavier *Experiment*.

Barry turned into *Unicorn* and closed the distance. The frigates exchanged broadsides. On the second exchange, Barry heard a sickening crack; a well-placed shot brought a large section of his topmast crashing to the deck. For six more hours, *Raleigh* and *Unicorn* traded blows, with neither yielding to the other. Finally, *Unicorn* sheared off. Barry made for a small chain of islands off Penobscot Bay, exchanging shots with the still-pursuing *Experiment*. As *Experiment* turned to avoid the shallows, Barry and the wounded *Raleigh* ran aground. Barry disembarked his crew with the initial thought of defending the island, but the bare rocks were found to be indefensible. Barry and 85 crewmen escaped on foot. The Americans lost three dead, 22 wounded, and 135 captive, to a British tally of 10 killed.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac,
by John C. Fredriksen,
Infobase Publishing, 2006

<https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/daily/military-history/commodore-john-barry-naval-hero-of-the-american-revolution/>



MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since the Constitution Day Luncheon the MNSAR has enrolled the following new members and welcomed members transferring from other state societies:

NEW MEMBERS:

Name	Patriot
William Carlton Thomas	Thomas Carlton, Sr.
Thomas Clement Boos	Stephen Franklin
Steven Russell Lehr	Daniel Davis
Avery James Lehr	Daniel Davis
William Henry Lehr.....	Daniel Davis
Dale Richard Wilde	Micah Wild
Donald James Jurgens	Conrad Spohn

MEMBERS TRANSFERRED FROM OTHER SOCIETIES:

James Edward Stone.....	William McSwain
Donald Thomas Irwin.....	Luttwick Braunmiller

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday September 29, 1778

BRITISH MASSACRE SLEEPING AMERICAN TROOPS

Old Tappan, New Jersey – In the early morning hours of September 28th, General Charles Grey advanced upon a detachment of 100 sleeping Third Continental Dragoons under Lieutenant Colonel George Baylor. Grey ordered his men to remove their flints and rely solely upon cold steel. At 2:00 a.m. six infantry companies surrounded the barn where Baylor's men were sleeping and attacked relentlessly.

Colonel George Baylor, a native of Virginia who had short military service as an aide to General George Washington, was twenty-six years old in the summer of 1778. He commanded a regiment of dragoons alternately known as the Third Continental Dragoons, the Third Light Dragoons or Lady Washington's Guards. Baylor's lightly armed regiment carried out few patrols; their duties consisted mostly of reconnaissance and escort, and they were accordingly lightly armed with sabers and some few pistols. The major distinction in his career thus far was when he was awarded the privilege of delivering the news of Washington's victory at Trenton and the captured Hessian flag to the Continental Congress in Baltimore.

On 22 September 1778, the British sent a foraging expedition of about five thousand men from New York to the area between the Hackensack River and the Hudson River, where it was felt they would be best defended from an American at-

tack. Five days later, Baylor's regiment, which consisted of about 120 officers and men, was ordered to take a position between the main American army and the British foraging parties. With Major Alexander Clough, an experienced soldier and horseman, as second in command, the regiment moved to Harrington, New Jersey. Baylor and Clough made their headquarters at the house of Cornelius Haring, a known Tory. His officers boarded at four nearby houses, while his men stayed in six other out-buildings along the road. To the east, Baylor posted a guard at the bridge over the Hackensack River and sent out small patrols.

General Charles Grey, in command of one of the British foraging parties, learned of Baylor's position and prepared to move on the regiment. General Grey had earned a fierce reputation for taking no prisoners in a massacre of American troops at Paoli in Pennsylvania a year earlier. Among his tactics was the removal of the flint from the weapons of his soldiers to prevent any accidental discharge and preserve the secrecy of his attack. This forced his men to rely on close-quarters fighting and their bayonets. Since an attack from the west was most unlikely, Grey proceeded up the Kinderkamack Road to attack from that direction. Under Grey's command were the Second Battalion of Light Infantry, the second Battalion of the Grenadiers, the

33rd and 64th Regiments of Foot, and a small detachment of cavalry. Grey ordered his Light Infantry to attack from two directions.

Major John Maitland with six companies advanced along the road to the patrol stationed at the bridge. Major Turner Straubenzee was led by Tory guides from the west to Baylor's location. Between one and two o'clock in the morning of 28 September, the attack began. The sleeping Americans were completely surprised. Some of Baylor's dragoons attempted to defend themselves with pistols or sabers, while others tried to hide under the hay in the barns. The British soldiers used their bayonets effectively, and also used their muskets as clubs to beat some of the American soldiers. When Baylor and Clough heard the noise, they attempted to hide from the British by climbing into the chimney of the house where they were quartered. Both men were bayoneted multiple times by the British.

Of the 120 Americans, the British killed eleven on the spot, while taking thirty-nine prisoners, eight of whom were wounded. The British left behind seventeen wounded Americans, four of whom later died. Only thirty-seven Americans escaped unharmed. Some of the Americans, were run through with bayonets a dozen times or more. Private Julian King was reported to have been stabbed sixteen times, while two others received twelve wounds. Major

Clough died of his wounds the following day, though Baylor lived on. The British only lost one man, who was shot by an American dragoon.

The British retreated to Tappan with their prisoners and supplies, and the Bergen County militia was sent out to locate survivors. The militia found six men killed at the bridge and others near the barns, but fearing a return of the British troops, they hastily buried the men in three abandoned leather tanning vats near the site of the massacre by the Hackensack River.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac,
by John C. Fredriksen,
Infobase Publishing, 2006

[http://
dansamericanrevolutionblog.
blogspot.com/2010/11/
massacre-at-old-tappan.html](http://dansamericanrevolutionblog.blogspot.com/2010/11/massacre-at-old-tappan.html)

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2019



MNSAR Members Who Served in the Military

Past President COL Ronald McRoberts had coordinated the presentation of NSSAR War Service Medals and NSSAR Military Service Medals during the Washington Observance and Luncheon Meeting. 17 of the 22 recipients were present: The War Service Medal and certificate was awarded to Allen Dean Shepersky. The Military Service Medal and Certificate were awarded to Geoffrey Bodeau, Arthur Finnell, David Foster, Jay Franklin, Wayne Halvorson, David Hawley, Marvin Jansma, William Langston, Ronald McRoberts, Robert Neese, Randall Nelson, Thomas Scherer, Larry Sisk, Rehn Smith, Thomas Sneed, and Craig Whiting. The other five will be mailed: War Service to Michael Huttner; and Military Service to Bruce Humrickhouse, Ethan Read, Douglas Stewart, and Leland Swanson. The assemblage rose with applause for all these fine gentlemen for service to our country.

INSIDE THE
MNSAR SALUTE...

Annual George Washington
 Observance and Luncheon

MNSAR Members Who Served in
 the Military

Freemasonry and its Influence on
 the American Revolution

American Eagle

A Splash of Color

New MNSAR Members

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





FREEMASONRY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Minneapolis, Minnesota – 42 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 for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 82. Jax Café had prepared their signature walleye pike for the group, with a vegetarian alternative for those desiring such, and a delightful white chocolate raspberry mousse dessert.

Kevin Everett Sullivan, Vice President of the Minneapolis Chapter and member of the MNSAR Color Guard, as well as a member of numerous Masonic organizations, gave an outstanding illustrated address on “Freemasonry and its Influence on the American Revolution.”

Freemasonry is the world’s oldest fraternity having started in England in 1717. They trace their origins to the local fraternities of stonemasons, which from the end of the fourteenth century regulated the qualifications of stonemasons and their interaction with authorities and clients. The degrees of Freemasonry retain the three grades of medieval craft guilds, those of Apprentice, Journeyman or fellow (now called Fellowcraft), and Master Mason.

Freemasonry describes itself as a “beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols”. The symbolism is mainly, but not

exclusively, drawn from the manual tools of stonemasons – the square and compasses, the level and plumb rule, the trowel, among others. A moral lesson is attached to each of these tools, although the assignment is by no means consistent. The meaning of the symbolism is taught and explored through ritual.

Many colonial mayors and politicians were Freemasons. Each of the original thirteen colonies had Masonic Lodges. 41 percent of General Washington’s staff were Freemasons, as was George Washington.

It can easily be shown that in many ways the revolutionary ideals of equality, freedom, and democracy were espoused by the Masonic fraternity long before the American colonies began to complain about the injustices of British taxation. The revolutionary ideals expressed in the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and the writings of Thomas Paine, were ideals that had come to fruition over a century before in the early speculative lodges of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, where men sat as equals, governed themselves by a Constitution, and elected their own leaders from their midst. In many ways, the self-governing Masonic Lodges of the previous centuries had been learning laboratories for the concept of self-government.

It is clear that Freemasonry played a large role in Washing-



Minnesota SAR Color Guard, honored guests from Masonic affiliations and George Washington’s sword – a gift from Lafayette.

ton’s presidency. George Washington was inaugurated as President of the United States with a Bible from St. John’s Lodge, administered by Chancellor and Grand Master of New York, Robert R. Livingston. The dollar bill, boasting Washington’s face, is known to display Masonic symbols, such as the all-seeing eye and scroll.

On September 18, 1793, President George Washington, dressed in his Masonic apron, leveled the cornerstone of the United States Capitol with the traditional Masonic ceremony.

George Washington passed away in 1799 at the age of 67. He was honored with a Masonic funeral ceremony, and buried with his apron. In the midst of Washington’s death, Martha Washington sent a lock of the president’s hair to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It has been kept in an urn made by

Paul Revere from the year 1800 and remains in their collection to this day.

Sullivan introduced eight guests from Masonic affiliations including the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. They brought with them a Sword given to George Washington from the Marquis de Lafayette.

Sullivan ended his dissertation with the Closing Charge of Freemasons performed by one of his guests.

Next Meeting

The Minnesota SAR’s annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

Minnesota author Alan Lathrop will present a history from his book, “A Surgeon with Stillwell” – about Dr. John Grindlay and combat medicine in the China-Burma-India Theater during WWII.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Thursday November 12, 1778

CHERRY VALLEY MASSACRE

Cherry Valley, New York – Yesterday a combined Loyalist/Indian Force under Captain Walter Butler and Chief Joseph Brant ravaged the American Settlement at Cherry Valley, New York. They attacked under the cover of a rainstorm and surprised the garrison under Colonel Ichabod Alden, who was killed along with over 40 soldiers and settlers.

The Seneca Indians were angered by accusations that they had committed atrocities during the July Battle at Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, led by Colonel John Butler of Butler's Rangers. The lurid propaganda associated with the accusations against the Seneca in particular angered them, as did the colonists' destruction of Unadilla, Onaquaga, and Tioga. The Wyoming Valley attack, even though Chief Joseph Brant was not present, fueled among his opponents the view of him as a particularly brutal opponent.

Brant then joined forces with Captain Walter Butler (the son of Colonel John Butler), leading two companies of Butler's Rangers commanded by Captains John McDonell and William Caldwell for an attack on the major Schoharie Creek settlement of Cherry Valley. Butler's forces also included 300 Senecas, probably led by either Cornplanter or Sayenqueraghta, and 50 British Army soldiers from the 8th Regiment of Foot.

Cherry Valley had a palisaded fort (constructed after Brant's raid on Cobleskill) that

surrounded the village meeting house. It was garrisoned by 300 soldiers of the 7th Massachusetts Regiment of the Continental Army, commanded by Colonel Ichabod Alden.

As October wound down, Alden became convinced there would be no concentrated attack on Cherry Valley until possibly the following spring.

On November 8, Alden received a hastily written message from Fort Schuyler, warning that Tories and Indians would attack his post.

As it was late in the season, settlers who brought their belongings to the fort for protection that summer had already taken them back to their homes. Now, with the warning, when they asked Alden for permission to bring their valuables back to the fort, Alden scoffed at the warning, calling it an "idle Indian rumor" and turned them down. He assured the settlers he would; "...post vigilant scouts and be at all times prepared to warn them of any approaching danger."

On November 9, Alden sent scouts in various directions. Those who traveled down the Susquehanna unknowingly walked directly into the face of the enemy. On their third night out, one group of 10 men made a serious mistake. Sergeant Adam Hunter also didn't believe there would be an attack this late in the season, and was tired of cold, fireless nights. He told his men to build a large fire and they all slept beside it for warmth. They woke up the next morning as prisoners.

Adam Hunter woke up looking into a ring of Tories and Indian faces. Walter Butler recognized the sergeant. Hunter realized in fear that he was looking into the face of the man he once guarded in an Albany home who had escaped and very nearly caused his demotion.

After grilling Hunter and the prisoners for about an hour they got all the information about the settlement they needed, Butler and Brant moved toward the valley. They camped on top of a thickly evergreened hill about a mile southwest of the village. Snow fell that night, turning to rain by morning. The valley was covered with thick mist and fog. The attackers moved quickly and silently toward the village.

Officers of the garrison were lodged with families near the fort. And, with continued assurances by Colonel Alden that it was too late in the season for an attack, everyone relaxed. Alden and Lt. Colonel Stacy stayed with Robert Wells, a respected judge of the county, who was a close friend of Colonel John Butler, (Walter's father). About 20 regular soldiers also stayed at the Wells farm. Knowing where all the officers were staying, the attackers started to infiltrate the village, intending to creep up on the officer's billets. However, on the outskirts of town, an Indian fired at two men, killing one and wounding the other. Although seriously wounded, the survivor rode to the Wells house warning Colonel Alden and sounded the

alarm in the village.

Continuing to evidence his arrogance and ignorance, Alden still did not believe it was an attack of force. He insisted it was likely the work of a lone straggler. Before he could call in his scouts or organize a defense, the Indians were upon them.

Unfortunately for the settlers, before entering the village, Butler halted his rangers so they could check their firearms. Their powder was wet. Some reports claim the pause was intentional, allowing the Senecas, the most ferocious of the Six Nations, into the vanguard of the attack. The rangers might have been able to curb some of the Seneca thirst for blood. The evening before Butler had cautioned his men against unwarranted cruelty. Instead, the Senecas immediately surrounded the Wells house, and, with several Tories, slaughtered the entire family. They killed Robert Wells, his wife, his brother and sister, John and Jane, three of his sons, Samuel, Robert, and William and his daughter Eleanor. The only survivor of the family was a son John who was at school in Schenectady. Ironically, Robert Wells had taken his entire family to safety in Schenectady some months before, but returned home when the danger of attack appeared over.

Alden attempted to escape from the Wells house. He was chased down a road for some distance by an Indian. Brant repeatedly shouted for his surrender. Alden refused, making a fatal mistake by stopping,

turning and firing his pistol repeatedly at Brant. His powder was wet, and the pistol misfired each time. Finally, the Mohawk chief hurled his tomahawk hitting Alden in the head, killing him instantly. Brant tore his scalp from him before he hit the ground.

The massacre of the Wells family was particularly barbaric. One story claims one of the Tories boasting he killed the unarmed Mr. Wells as he prayed. A better source states that Butler killed Wells, which is more likely.

As the Indians broke into the house, Wells's sister, Eleanor, tried to hide in a woodpile. She was intercepted by Little Beard who grabbed her, took his tomahawk from his belt, and aimed his tomahawk at her head. A Tory, ranger Peter Smith, once a servant in the Wells house, jumped in front of the Indian to stop him, claiming she was his sister. Eleanor knew some words of the Mohawk language and begged the Indian for mercy. With one hand, the Iroquois pushed the Tory away from the girl and with the other, buried

his weapon in her temple.

The garrison was under daylong assault by Tories and Butler's rangers. The Indians avoided the fort, always fearful of cannon shot, especially grapeshot. They preferred killing, plundering and laying waste to the village and outskirts. They had no opposition, since they outnumbered the garrison force more than two to one. Those inside the fort saw the futility in venturing out to try and stop them.

Other Cherry Valley families who suffered the Indians, and equally vicious Tories, included the Rev. Samuel Dunlop and a Mr. Mitchell. Mrs. Dunlop was killed outright, sharing the fate of her sister, Mrs. Wells. Mr. Dunlop and another daughter would have been murdered but for Little Aaron, a chief of the Oghkwaga branch of Mohawks. Little Aaron led the aged, infirm old man to a doorway, where he stood beside him for protection. Indians tried to take his clothes, but the sachem stopped them.

Mr. Mitchell's situation was even more tragic. In the

field working when he spotted the Indians, he realized he was cut off from the house. He headed into the woods, hiding until the attackers moved on. When he returned, his house was on fire, and he found his wife and three of their children inside, murdered. His fourth, a girl of ten years old, although mangled and left for dead, was still alive. After putting out the small house fire, he carried his girl to the doorway, tending her wounds. He noticed a straggling party of attackers approaching. He just had time to hide, when a Tory sergeant named Newberry ran up to the door, and with a shout, drove his hatchet into the head of the little girl.

Several other families were cut off by the Indians, and in all, 32 settlers of Cherry Valley – mostly women and children – were killed. In addition, 16 soldiers died. Some of the inhabitants escaped, but many were wounded and/or taken prisoner.

Mrs. Clyde, the wife of Colonel Clyde, who was not in the area at the time, reached the deep woods with all her children except her oldest daughter,

Abigail, who wasn't to be found. Although the Indians prowled the woods around her, she and the children remained hidden until the next day. Abigail had escaped also, but as she was trying to rejoin her mother the next day, she was intercepted and did not survive. Col. Colin Campbell was away from the village when the attack started, but hurried home when he heard the alarm gun from the Fort. He arrived to find his property destroyed, a member of his household killed and his wife and four children carried away as prisoners.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac, by John C. Fredriksen, Infobase Publishing, 2006

<https://revolutionarywar.us/year-1778/battle-cherry-valley-massacre/>

<https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/781111-cherry-valley>

A SPLASH OF COLOR

A Message from the MNSAR Color Guard

Color Guard Commander Steven Hyde presented a report promoting the MNSAR Color Guard. He reported on the Color Guard's activity during 2018 including the annual Wayzata Chapter C.A.R. "flying pancake" Independence Day event.

He ended by saying, "at the end of the day, you can rest assured that..."

WE THE PEOPLE of the United States,
in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice,
insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defence,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity,
(as we) do ordain and establish (the) Constitution for the United States of America!

Share with family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors, the challenge of the preamble and getting involved in this Society."

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members were welcomed during the Washington Day Observance and Luncheon. SAR Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones presented the certificate and rosette to new member Harry Hust. Other new member certificates will be mailed. Robert Allison was presented the certificate and star for another approved supplemental application. MAJ Geoffrey R. Bodeau, M.D., was presented with the certificate and insignia for 25 years of membership.

New Members:

Name	Patriot
Michael W. F. Huffner	Thomas Eldredge
Harry Agar Hust	Enos Day
Michael Dennis Kalos	Anthony Hoffman
Tristan Alexander Kalos	Anthony Hoffman
John Spencer Kalos	Anthony Hoffiman
Mark David Nelson	John T. Headley

Supplemental Application Approved:

Robert W. G. H. Allison..... William Gwin, Sr.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SUMMER 2019



ANNUAL C.A.R. PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Wayzata, MN – Folks lined up for the flying pancake breakfast and visited under the shade trees. The living history team mingled with the crowd giving the visitors opportunity to learn more about the times of our Revolution. A display of a bell tent of the era and camp equipment was especially exciting for the children. Several times during the morning the two drummers called the soldiers to form up, march to the pier and fire musket volleys. This year our two drummers Kerry and Steve were joined by 11-year-old James with his fife.

The Declaration of Independence was read by SAR member Kevin Sullivan. Wayzata Mayor Wilcox introduced veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam giving the crowd a brief biography of the service of each and a tribute also to those attending who have served in the armed forces. Attendance this year finished at 1,416.

INSIDE THE MNSAR SALUTE...

Annual C.A.R. Flying Pancake Independence Day Event

129th SAR National Congress

MNSAR Color Guard and School Program in Mound

MNSAR Traveling Trunk Proposal

American Eagle

New Prague Eagle Scout Wins Minnesota Competition

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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





129TH SAR NATIONAL CONGRESS REPORT

by Chris Moberg, National Trustee for Minnesota

Costa Mesa, California – The annual national congress of the SAR was held from Friday, July 5 to Thursday, July 11, 2019. The weather was extremely pleasant the entire time, making it difficult to return to hot and humid Minnesota. A number of tours were offered during the week, including a “Huntington Library and Gardens” tour, a “Lyons Air Museum and Richard Nixon Presidential Library” tour, a “San Juan Capistrano Mission” tour, and a “Ronald Reagan Presidential Library” tour. The host society reception was a beautiful four-hour dinner cruise in Newport Beach on the Hornblower ship “Endless Dreams.” I had the honor of participating with the color guard at the President General’s review at Castaway Park, the memorial service at Saint Andrews Church, and congress sessions and banquets at the Hilton hotel.

Attendees heard outstanding speeches by high school students during the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations contest. At the youth awards luncheon, the winning essay was read, and the top posters and brochures were displayed. A unique opportunity at this year’s conference was four excellent sessions hosted by the William L. Clements Library from the University of Michi-

gan. The Clements library has one of the best collections of primary source materials for the American Revolution in the country and is proud to be collaborating with the SAR.

Minnesota sent two delegates to the Congress: Minnesota Society President Dennis Croonquist, and myself, St. Paul Chapter President. Some of the items of business included:

1. Two additional classes of membership already in the bylaws were added to the constitution: national life membership and emeritus membership.
2. The memorial membership in the bylaws was changed to allow membership of deceased children and to ensure that a new patriot ancestor is not used on the application.
3. “Independent Audit Committee” was changed to “Audit Committee” in the bylaws, and the number of committee members was increased from five to seven.
4. The bylaws were updated to clarify that life members who let their state society membership lapse do not need to pay national dues upon reinstatement to a state society.
5. Incorrect information about membership requirements for the Ladies’ Auxiliary were removed from the bylaws.

MNSAR COLOR GUARD AND SCHOOL PROGRAM IN MOUND

by Craig Whiting

Mound, Minnesota – May 16, 2019 Compatriots Chris Moberg and Craig Whiting were joined by DAR Ladies Teresa Anderson and Gigi Hickey for a living history presentation at Grandview Middle School in Mound.

Assisting was student James Glassmann, CAR. Three one hour sessions were held with 30 plus fifth grade students per session. The team introduced themselves and their persona and gave a brief history of their patriot ancestor then launched into a series of short stories, pointing out some facts and fictions about people and the struggle, offering several vignettes and answered plenty of questions coming in from the students. Some subjects covered were flag history (in which students held flags) Molly Pitcher lore, camp followers, how the Cubans helped our victory at Yorktown, the Sybil Ludington story, clothing, pay, child life in the era, death or incapacity due to disease vs. battle wounds, militia service, how Mount Vernon got its name, the help of the French and Spanish, Franklin’s snake cartoon and “Huzzah” (which the students shouted with enthusiasm). One of the teachers wrote us: “it’s fun to hear crazy stories that you wouldn’t read about in a fifth grade text



book,” and “more about what did they eat, how did they sleep, what were the weather conditions, ... more random details that the kids wouldn’t have learned about” and suggested we use more replicas from the period which the students may hold and pass around.

The living history team concluded that there will most likely be more such teaching opportunities arising now and that a combined SAR/DAR/CAR living history team equipped with replica items of the Revolutionary War era will be pursued. The DAR and SAR working together to further education on the Revolution together was a great success.

For more photos visit: <http://sarmnecg.blogspot.com>



MNSAR TRAVELING TRUNK PROPOSAL

In a recent living history morning with students of a middle school, two members of our color guard, one CAR member and two DAR members found a need for hands-on materials to support discussion of life during the Revolution. Replica items that may be held by students will enhance the education program by making it more realistic.

The "Traveling Trunk" is an educational tool to be used by members of the SAR in conjunction with member efforts to fulfill the mission of the SAR. This tool, like others of the kind in other chapters and the American Revolution Institute, is to be available on a no-fee basis to be borrowed by schools, the DAR, the CAR and any organization deemed by the SAR to be qualified. These items, props of the era to be used in education, will help students by allowing them to see, touch and learn about life in the Revolutionary War era. The Color Guard will be responsible for managing the trunk.

The trunk will contain items of interest relating to the revolutionary era. Such items may be:

- Hunting Frock, Uniform Coat, Tri-Corn Hat
- Pullover 18th Century Dress, Bonnet, Pockets
- Replica Eating Utensils
- Period Lantern

- Quill Pen, Ink
- Early Games and Toys
- Copy of New England Primer
- Hornbook
- Cartridge Box with Belt
- Various Flags
- Copy of the Declaration and the Constitution
- Spyglass
- Map Reproductions
- Spectacles
- Musket Pick, Powder Horn
- Early Sewing Kit
- Medical Kit
- Candle Mold, Beeswax Candles, Fire Starting Kit
- Wooden Trunks to Hold These Items
- Bayonet, Hatchet
- Wooden Canteen
- CD of Fife and Drum Music
- Wooden Trunks to Hold These Items

Not included in the trunk, but available for school use if delivery and set up is arranged: tent w/poles, indoor tent pole frame and replica fire pit with period iron roasting equipment, cooking pot, etc. Also a laptop projector for use by SAR team in presentations.

While some funding may be provided by the Compatriot Wayne Snodgrass grant (Colorado SAR), help will be needed from our own Minnesota compatriots. If you are interested in helping by sponsoring items or by joining the team, please contact Steve Hyde.

2019 MNSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

Minnesota Society ROTC Awards

The ROTC/JROTC Medal program in 2019 once again handled presentations in all 12 JROTC units and all 7 ROTC units in Minnesota. We and the following Compatriots for being at these programs and doing the presentations: Dennis G. Croonquist, Steven J. Hyde, Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor, Hon. William Johnson, Christopher W. Moberg, Marvin Lane Jansma, Janes Everett Hagen, Michael Ronald Bradley, Michael William Huttner, David Adriance Foster, John Charles Sassaman, Charles Edward Boyles, and Christopher John Pizinger. Our Society was represented well.

We are pleased to announce that James Everett Hagen has taken over the chairmanship of this committee; John Hallberg Jones has done the job for over 40 years and has now stepped down. We look forward to the continued good reports for this project.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Chapters Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal program of the Minneapolis Chapter continues to be one of the largest in the nation for the SAR. In 2019 our Chapter presented the medal in 23 area high

schools and one Naval Sea Cadets Squadron. John Hallberg Jones has coordinated this project for over 40 years. We are pleased to advise that the program will now be chaired by Michael William Huttner. We appreciate his stepping up to the plate to do this great project and look forward to the strong continuation of this program.

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.

Flag Certificates

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

- Broadview Builders, Lexington
- Kopy Motors, Forest Lake
- Muffler Doctor, Lexington
- Sven's Shoes, Chisago City
- Uncommon Loon Brewing Company, Chisago City



NEW PRAGUE EAGLE SCOUT WINS MINNESOTA COMPETITION

Joseph B. Taylor of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America is the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Joseph was unable to attend the Washington Day Luncheon due to his college schedule. He received his Spreading Wings Eagle Trophy at a later date.

Joseph'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 \$10,000 scholarship. \$6,000 and \$4,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen.

His winning essay is printed below:



John Paul Jones: one naval commander with a unique history and a compelling story of service.

When considering the conflicts of the American Revolution, names such as Bunker Hill, Trenton, and Yorktown come to mind. More often than not, too little thought is given to the other than land based campaigns of the time. Yes, even in its infancy, the United States had a navy. A brief search of the early American Navy will lead to the name John Paul Jones: one naval commander with a unique history and a compelling story of service.

Born in Scotland on July 6th, 1747, John Paul began to lead his sailing career at the age of thirteen. From his apprenticeship, he learned the ropes and the seas, eventually becoming a merchant sailor. After killing a man to fend off a mutinous crew, John Paul fled to America under the impression he would not receive a fair trial for his actions.

There he assumed the name John Paul Jones. When the Revolutionary War broke out, Jones volunteered for and was commissioned into the Continental Navy. His first ship, *Alfred*, was a brief assignment before he took command of the *Providence*, outfitted with twenty one guns, in 1776. Jones was quick to begin wreaking havoc on British naval and merchant vessels. While commanding the *Providence*, Jones captured or sank sixteen British vessels. Back in command of *Alfred*, Jones captured several more British ships before being appointed to command the brand new *Ranger* in 1777. This time, Jones sailed to the British Isles and the coast of France to attack the British navy and merchants close to home. Yet again, John Paul Jones had many victories and succeeded in disrupting the British war effort in addi-

tion to reminding them they were not invulnerable to attack. However, his greatest feat was yet to come.

In August 1779, Jones assumed command of five ships including the *Bonhomme Richard*, his biggest, most armed ship to date. With his new ship, Jones commenced another tour around the British Isles. Jones, just one month after gaining his new fleet, intercepted British merchant vessels under the protection of war ships *Serapis* and *Countess of Scarborough*. The following battle became one of the most revered in American naval history. It was during this battle which Jones was challenged whether or not he wanted to surrender to which he retorted, "I have not yet begun to fight!" Then, he tied the ships together and proceeded to fire volley after volley of cannon fire into the opposing ship during an ugly

battle which lasted several hours. The *Bonhomme Richard* was fatally damaged, but it was the *Serapis* which surrendered first. Jones and his crew captured the ship taking it as their own while the *Bonhomme Richard* sank. Defeating the British war ship made his name recognizable around the world for years to come.

His life after this historic battle slowly declined until his death. However, he did receive a congressional medal of honor for his actions in the Continental Navy. After the revolution, despite his successful naval career, American leaders ignored his advice to maintain a strong navy for future conflicts. John Paul Jones served a brief term in the Russian navy before his death in July 1792.

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday December 30, 1778

SAVANNAH FALLS TO THE BRITISH

Savannah, Georgia – Yesterday, Savannah, Georgia fell to British hands in a pitched battle.

In the fall of 1778, Colonel McIntosh, who had been left in command of the town after the repulse of the British in March 1776, notified Major General Robert Howe, commander of the American forces in this section, with headquarters at Charleston, that an advance of the British upon Savannah was anticipated, and that his small force, 250 men, with 100 for duty, was inadequate to defend the place. Howe came over and took command. He had about 500 regulars and 350 militia.

Howe learned that the British had planned for General Augustine Prevost to advance from East Florida and arrive near Savannah in time to cooperate with the naval fleet, under Sir Hyde Parker and the troops under Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell, to be sent from New York. Prevost advanced as far as Sunbury. The Americans made a show of being in strong force and Prevost retreated.

Howe returned to Savannah and ordered all of the troops to assemble there. The town was in an almost defenseless condition, excepting from the water side. The fort on the eastern end

of the bluff had been considerably enlarged, more guns mounted, and made quite formidable. It was named Fort Wayne, in honor of Brigadier General Anthony Wayne.

By December 27, the whole of the British fleet had anchored off Tybee Island. The vessels composing the armed squadron were the *Phoenix*, 44 guns; the *Rose* and *Fowey*, 24 guns each; the *Vigilant*, 28 guns; and the brig *Keppel*, the sloop *Greenwich* and the galley *Comet*. The transports brought about 3,500 men. Howe had about 900 men to oppose their force. The British were not at first aware of the weakness of the Americans and were disposed to wait the arrival of Prevost's command before commencing the assault upon the town.

To gain information, Campbell sent a boat's crew ashore to capture some of the inhabitants. The crew landed on Wilmington Island and took two men prisoner, who informed them of the exact condition of the Americans. Believing the information received to be correct, Campbell decided to attack without delay.

On December 28, the squadron sailed up within two miles of Savannah, opposite to Girardeau's Planta-



tion, and preparations were made to land early the next morning. Howe was not correctly informed concerning the strength of the enemy, and believing he could cope with them, determined to defend the town.

Observing this movement of the enemy, he rightly concluded that the troops would land below Brewton Hill 4 and advance upon the town by the great road and Captain John C. Smith, with his company of South Carolinians, was sent to the hill to watch the enemy.

The army was divided into two brigades; the first, commanded by Colonel Elbert, constituted the left, and the other, under Colonel Huger, the right wing. Five pieces of cannon were posted in front of the causeway.

To the right of the position of the Americans, a small path led through a

swamp to the high grounds on the opposite side. This path was pointed out to Howe by Colonel Walton as a place which should be guarded, but Howe, thinking differently, paid no attention to the suggestion. The roads to White Bluff and the Ogeechee River united near their barracks, and Colonel Walton, with 100 militia, was posted there.

On December 29, Campbell selected Girardeau's Plantation, located about 2 miles below the city, for the landing place. When word reached Howe that the landing had started, he sent a company of Continentals to occupy the bluffs above the landing site. Campbell realized that the bluffs would need to be controlled before the majority of his forces could land, and dispatched two companies of the 71st Regiment to take control of

them.

The Continentals opened fire at about 100 yards; the British, rather than returning fire, advanced rapidly with bayonets fixed, denying the Continentals a second shot. The Continentals retreated, having killed four and wounded five at no cost to themselves. By noon, Campbell had landed his army and began to proceed cautiously toward the city.

Howe held a council that morning, and ground was chosen at which to make a stand. About one-half mile south of the city, he established a line of defense in the shape of an open "V", with the ends anchored by swampy woods.

On the left, Howe placed Georgia Continentals and militia under Samuel Elbert, while on the right he put South Carolina Continentals and militia under Isaac Huger and William Thomson. The line was supported by four pieces of field artillery,

and light infantry companies guarded the flanks. Most of Howe's troops, including the Continentals, had seen little or no action in the war.

When Campbell's advance companies spotted Howe's line around 2:00 PM, the main body stopped short of the field and Campbell went to see what he was up against. He viewed Howe's defenses as essentially sound, but a local slave told him that there was a path through the swamp on Howe's right.

Campbell ordered Sir James Baird to take 350 light infantry and 250 New York Loyalists and follow the slave through the swamp, while he arrayed his troops just out of view in a way that would give the impression he would attempt a flanking maneuver on Howe's left. One of his officers climbed a tree to observe Baird's progress.

True to the slave's word, the trail came out near the

Continental barracks, which had been left unguarded; the Continentals were unaware they had been flanked. When they reached position, the man in the tree signaled by waving his hat, and Campbell ordered the regulars to charge.

The first sounds of battle Howe heard were musket fire from the barracks, but these were rapidly followed by cannon fire and the appearance of charging British and German troops on his front. He ordered an immediate retreat, but it rapidly turned into a rout.

His untried troops hardly bothered to return fire, some throwing down their weapons before attempting to run away through the swampy terrain. Campbell reported that "It was scarcely possible to come up with them, their retreat was rapid beyond Conception."

The light infantry in the Continental rear cut off the road to Augusta, the only

significant escape route, forcing a mad scramble of retreating troops into the city itself. The Georgia soldiers on the right attempted to find a safe crossing of Musgrove Creek, but one did not exist, and many of the troops were taken prisoner.

Soldiers who did not immediately surrender were sometimes bayoneted. Huger managed to form a rear-guard to cover the escape of a number of the Continentals. Some of Howe's men managed to escape to the north before the British closed off the city, but others were forced to attempt swimming across Yamacraw Creek; an unknown number drowned in the attempt.

Sources:

Revolutionary War Almanac, by John C. Fredriksen, Infobase Publishing, 2006

<https://revolutionarywar.us/year-1778/battle-of-savannah/>

NEW MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SECRETARY- TREASURER

John Hallberg Jones, who has served as Secretary-Treasurer for over 40 years, has now stepped down. The new Secretary-Treasurer will be Thomas C. Harris. This change was put into place on 26 June. We appreciate Tom bringing his lineage society expertise to this office and look forward to continued success for the Chapter.

NEW VICE PRESIDENT GENERAL OF THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

During the SAR National Congress, Christopher Willard Moberg was installed as Vice President General of the North Central District. Duane Galles was elected National Trustee for Minnesota. Next year's congress will be in Richmond, Virginia.

NEXT MEETING

The Minnesota SAR's annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

Minnesota author Alan Lathrop will present a history from his book, "A Surgeon with Stillwell" – about Dr. John Grindlay and combat medicine in the China-Burma-India Theater during WWII.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



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ANNUAL CONSTITUTION DAY LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, Minnesota – On October 19, 2019 – the anniversary of Cornwallis’s surrender – 31 members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Constitution Day Luncheon. The total attendance was 48. Jax Café had prepared their signature chicken marsala for the group followed by a delightful raspberry mousse dessert.

President Dennis Garvin Croonquist led the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and the Pledge to the SAR, and Compatriot John Hallberg Jones gave the invocation. Vice President General for the North Central District Christopher Moberg brought official greetings from the NSSAR and spoke of his recent activity. COL McRoberts and President Croonquist presented the State Distinguished Service Medal to John Hallberg Jones, citing 49 years as Secretary-Treasurer of our Minnesota Society. Steven Hyde and the Minnesota Society Color Guard presented a Sterling Silver letter opener, being a model of the personal sword of George Washington to Jones for his support of the Color Guard over all the years.

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Day Luncheon

A Surgeon with Stilwell

A Splash of Color

New Members

SAR Fall Leadership Report

MNSAR History

American Eagle

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2700 East Minnehaha Parkway
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A SURGEON WITH STILWELL

DR. JOHN H. GRINDLAY AND COMBAT MEDICINE IN THE CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER OF WORLD WAR II



Alan K. Lathrop, brought an excellent scholarly address entitled, *A Surgeon with Stilwell*, a summation of the China-Burma-India theater of 1941-1944. He has written an excellent book on the subject.

Lathrop projected many photographs and maps during his speech to help tell the story. Much of the following are excerpts from his book "*A Surgeon with Stilwell*."

By mid-1941, the conflict between China and Japan had been raging for four years. Photographs in American magazines and newspapers portrayed the savage nature of the combat, and the fortitude and stoic endurance of the Chinese people and the steadfast Nationalist government of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek made them heroic symbols in the United States of the struggle against Japanese aggression. The grim war and the toll it was taking on China motivated the U.S. government to consider sending a military mission to China with the intention of establishing an effective means of coordinating and administering Lend-Lease aid to the hard-pressed Chinese

Nationalist armies and providing modern military training to make them more effective.

The American Military Mission to China (AMMISCA) medical staff was under the command of Major Joseph Mendelson and consisted of a surgeon and two technicians, who would provide medical support for the mission, help set up equipment, and conduct laboratory work. The surgeon was First Lieutenant John Happer Grindlay, known as "Grumpy" among his friends, a thirty-one-year-old physician from Ohio and a member of the Army Reserve who was on the staff of Walter Reed General Hospital when he learned about AMMISCA from a fellow medical officer.

Born in Philadelphia on 13 November 1909, Grindlay received his AB degree at Oberlin College in 1931 and his MD from Harvard Medical School in 1935. He entered Dartmouth Medical College as a fellow in pathology (1935-1936) and served an internship on the house staff at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital at Dartmouth for another year (1936-1937). From 1937 to 1939 Grindlay attended the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota, as a fellow in surgery, and he received his MS in surgery from the University of Minnesota in 1940. He joined the U.S. Army Reserve as a medical officer the following year and was assigned to Walter Reed.

Lieutenant General Joseph Warren Stilwell (1883-1946) had served as U.S. military attache in China in the late 1930s, spoke fluent Chinese, and knew the people and politics of China intimately from two extended tours of duty. He was appointed by General George Marshall, army chief of staff, at the direction of President Roosevelt, to head all U.S. forces in the newly created China-Burma-India theater, administer Lend-Lease aid in the theater, serve as chief of staff to Chiang Kai-shek, and take charge of all forces then operating in Burma, including the British and Chinese.

Meantime, tension was building in Rangoon as the Japanese advanced closer to the city, and evacuation of the civilian populace and the military was beginning. The Japanese had invaded Burma from Siam (Thailand) on 20 January 1942 and marched against weak British resistance to the Sittang River, east of Rangoon. The British dug in to defend the important railroad bridge on the line that ran to Rangoon, but the overwhelming enemy attack forced the bridge to be blown on 23 February after less than half of the British forces had crossed it. With the British defenses in shambles, the Japanese drove on toward the key port of Burma.

On the morning of 7 May, Stilwell's "walkout," as it came to be called, began. Grindlay's diary, which he scrupulously kept during the ordeal, clearly

(and sometimes brutally) illuminates the pain, discomfort, exhaustion, and dangers the party experienced in the days that followed. "The first half of the 14 day march was hell, as was the second," he wrote to his wife after arriving in India.

The days of grueling climbs and descents were taking a toll on Grindlay, "I was getting absolutely exhausted for some reason," he wrote on 19 May. Late that afternoon they reached a narrow steel suspension bridge "on other side of which was end of motor [road coming from India]." A party of American officers arrived, some of them the men from Stilwell's staff who had been evacuated from Burma by air before the walkout began and who prepared for Stilwell's arrival in India.

The party stayed at Gauhati until July and then moved to Ramgarh, a road junction about two hundred air miles northwest of Calcutta. The medical personnel set up a hospital to treat the thousands of Chinese soldiers struggling out of Burma well into the summer and fall of 1942. These men would form the nucleus of a new, re-armed and reinvigorated army that would return to Burma in 1943 to begin the reconquest of the country they had tried so hard to defend.

Lathrop's outstanding presentation prompted many questions and was enjoyed by all. President Croonquist presented him a Certificate of Appreciation.



A SPLASH OF COLOR

A Message From the MNSAR Color Guard

Color Guard Commander Steven Hyde presented a report promoting the MNSAR Color Guard. He reported on the Color Guard's activity during 2019 including, the Grandview Middle School event and the annual Wayzata Chapter C.A.R. "flying pancake" Independence Day event. (See the Summer, 2019 SAR Salute)

Each of the Minnesota Color Guard members displayed the new red, white and blue cockade on their hats. The cockade features an image of a Minute Man within a border of Minnesota which will help differentiate the MNSAR Color Guard members from other units.

Hyde reported that Bradley T. Lyons, a member of the Florida SAR Color Guard had passed away and donated his uniform to the MNSAR.

Hyde sited the service of John McCallum in the Color Guard over many years. He announced that John McCallum was being presented with the Bronze Color Guard Medal.

Color Guard member Kevin Sullivan recited a wonderful rendition of Longfellow's epic poem "Paul Revere's Ride."

MNSAR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

President Dennis Gavin Croonquist and Secretary-Treasurer John Hallberg Jones presented certificates and rosettes to new members: Kevin Bursch and Daniel Hawley, whose certificate was accepted by his father David Hawley. Arthur Louis Finnell had already received the certificate for the Memorial Membership for his father Lawrence Arthur Finnell. New Member Certificates will be mailed to Robert Dolle, Anthony Hurst, Christopher Erickson, Steven Hirman, Benjamin Hirman, Jeremy Benitez, Larry Walters, Matthew Kramer, George Bodem, David Lee, and Elias Lee. Supplemental Certificates and/or stars were presented to Robert Allison, Marvin Jansma, and Christopher Moberg, and one will be mailed to Richard Smith.



Kevin Bursch surrounded by the color guard, president Croonquist and Secretary-Treasurer Jones.

NEW MEMBERS:

Member	Patriot
Robert Joseph Dolle, Jr.	David Mason
Kevin James Bursch, Jr.	Abraham Banta
Anthony Paul Hurst.....	Ebenezer Wood
Christopher A. Erickson....	Abel Owen
Steven Ross Hirman.....	Warner Wynn
Benjamin Ross Hirman.....	Warner Wynn
Daniel Mayer Hawley.....	Joseph Hawley
Jeremy Daniel Benitez.....	Jacob Manning
Larry Eugene Walters.....	Samuel Ransom
Matthew Edward Kramer..	Abraham Cantine
George Bohnert Bodem	Micah Vail
David George Lee.....	Thomas Morris
Elias Reuben Lee.....	Thomas Morris

SUPPLEMENTAL:

Member	Patriot
Robert W. G. H. Allison.....	George Rymer
Marvin Lane Jansma.....	John Dunlap
Marvin Lane Jansma.....	John Wampler
Marvin Lane Jansma.....	Johann Eigenbroad
Richard Eugene Smith.....	John Crane
Christopher Moberg.....	Joseph Whipple

MEMORIAL:

Member	Patriot
Lawrence Arthur Finnell...	Reuben Finnell

Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, January 11, 2020: Annual Business Meeting for MNSAR members only.

Saturday, February 15, 2020: Washington Day Luncheon – SAR & SR – open to all. COL Ronald McRoberts will speak about the Minute Man and their experience gained during the colonial wars. Booth meetings will be held at Jax Cafe.

MNSAR MEMBER RECOGNITIONS

John Sassaman was presented two Oak Leaf Clusters for his Liberty Medal, along with a certificate, and John Hallberg Jones was also presented an Oak Leaf Cluster and Certificate for his Liberty Medal. The Liberty Medal is presented to a compatriot who is a first line signer on ten new member applications.

COL Ronald McRoberts presented NSSAR War Service Medals and Certificates to Arthur Finnell and Marvin Jansma and will mail the same to Lyle Doerr.



SAR FALL LEADERSHIP REPORT

By Chris Moberg

Louisville, Kentucky – The Fall Leadership Meeting of the SAR was held from September 19 through 21, 2019 at the historic Brown Hotel. My first event was the Council of VPG’s meeting on Friday morning. The representatives of the various districts were encouraged to promote member retention, reinstatement, and mentorship. We were informed that one of the most effective ways to increase retention is to have a national level dues program, in which there is an option for automatic dues renewal. While the idea is being actively pursued by National, it is acknowledged that it will take some time to implement, as there is currently a wide variance among states and chapters as to how dues are handled.

On Friday afternoon, there was a tour of the National Headquarters. In addition to seeing staff offices and the library, we saw the first floor museum space, where the proposed layout of each display was marked with tape on the floor. That evening, I had the honor of participating with the color guard in posting the colors for the banquet. An informative update was given by a representative from Solid Light, Inc. on the progress of the SAR Education Center and Museum (see www.sarfoundation.org).

On Saturday morning, I attended the donor recognition breakfast and the Trustee meeting. Items of business included:

1. The contract with Solid Light, Inc. was amended to add a retail store to the museum plans at no additional cost.
2. \$2,400 in the U.S. Stamp Fund was reallocated to the 250th Anniversary Fund.
3. \$10,000 in the King’s College Project Fund was reallocated to upgrade the accounting software and a new storefront.
4. \$38,500 was allocated to the remaining work on the membership data module. The new membership database should be on-line by the Spring Leadership Meeting.
5. The proposed 2020 budget was approved.
6. Donations to the George Washington Endowment Fund will be split evenly between the George Washington Endowment Fund, the Howard F. Horne, Jr. Fund, and the Walter Buchanan “Buck” Meek Fund to boost the amount in these funds.
7. The 2024 National Congress will be held in Pennsylvania.
8. Five donated swords found to be from the 1800’s or later will be sold at auction, with the proceeds going to the Museum Special Artifacts Fund.

On Saturday evening, there was a banquet where we saw an interesting presentation on Bermuda and the American Revolution and learned about the upcoming SAR/DAR/CAR Bermuda trip planned for May 13-18, 2020. I joined the “SARpremes” in singing a few Revolutionary War era songs at the banquet, as well as a version of the famous Kingston Trio song “M.T.A.” in honor of Massachusetts resident and President General, Jack Manning. Finally, I participated with the color guard in retiring the colors.

HISTORY OF THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY

Part One

A group of 80 descendants of Revolutionary Soldiers dressed in the uniforms of Soldiers of the Revolution took part in a parade held July 4, 1876, in San Francisco. So much interest was aroused that they formed an organization called “Sons of Revolutionary Sires.” This was the first organization of this character and a number of similar groups were organized in other States during the next few years. These groups usually called themselves “Sons of the Revolution.”

On April 30, 1889 a meeting was held at Fraunces Tavern, New York City, to form a National Society and to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Washington’s inauguration as President of the United States.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY

For several years a number of eligible people in Minnesota had been discussing and considering the formation of a Minnesota Society. The result was an organization meeting held at 4:00 P.M., Dec. 26, 1889, at the Chamber of Commerce in St. Paul. After Wm. O. McDowell of New Jersey, the Vice President of the National Society, explained the purpose of the meeting, Judge Albert Edgerton, a “real son,” moved “That, we the gentlemen here assembled, do hereby constitute ourselves the Minnesota Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.” The following were present and signed the roll: Gen. J. B. Sanborn, E. V. Smalley, Judge R. R. Nelson,

E. W. Peet, Rev. Edward Mitchell, Rev. R. F. MacLaren, A. S. Tallmudge, C. B. Palmer, John W. Griggs, Sherwood Hough, Judge Albert Edgerton, John W. Boxell, P. Barton, E. V. Smith, W. K. Millikan, Douglas Putnam, and Geo. F. McAfee, all of St. Paul; Mayor E. W. Durant of Stillwater; Geo. K. Shaw of Minneapolis, Benj. Nute of Duluth, Daniel Getty of White Bear.

A committee composed of Gen. J. B. Sanborn, Judge Nelson, Judge Edgerton, Dr. Day, all of St. Paul; Geo. Shaw and E. W. Wilson of Minneapolis; Mayor Durant of Stillwater; Benj. Nute of Duluth and Earl Yoemans of Winona was appointed to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws.

This committee reported at a second meeting held Dec. 28, 1889, and the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted. The following officers were elected:

- Judge Albert Edgerton,
President
- George K. Shaw,
Vice President
- A. S. Tallmudge,
Secretary-Treasurer
- C. B. Palmer, *Registrar*

The membership of Minnesota Society increased rapidly with the result that in 1894 Minnesota ranked sixth in total members, only being exceeded by: Connecticut, 798; New York, 499; District of Columbia, 424; Massachusetts, 403; New Jersey, 276; and Minnesota, 231.

AMERICAN EAGLE



News of Yesterday Reported Today

Friday February 26, 1779

VINCENNES SURRENDERS TO AMERICA

Vincennes – A dashing frontiersman named George Rogers Clark struck a sharp blow to the British. The British, under the unsavory Colonel Henry Hamilton – the “Hair-Buyer,” who paid Indians for American scalps – captured Vincennes. Hearing of this, Clark led a tiny force of 130 men, half of them French, against Fort Sackville. Here Clark deceived Hamilton’s superior force by marching his little band back and forth to create the impression of a thousand men approaching. That was enough for Hamilton’s Indians, who quickly deserted. Then, after Clark’s sharpshooters began picking off the forts defenders, Hamilton asked for talks. To make up Hamilton’s mind, Clark had five Indians, who had been captured with scalps in their possession, tomahawked in full view of the garrison. Yesterday, February 25, Hamilton surrendered Vincennes.

Virginia, largest of the states, claimant to all the territory drained by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, was particularly alive to its responsibilities in protecting the West. As British Fort Niagara stood an ominous cloud over western New York and Pennsylvania, so Fort Detroit shadowed the Ohio and Illinois country at the back parts of Virginia. There commanded Colonel Henry Hamilton, who had earned the soubriquet “Hair Buyer” because, the frontiersmen told, he promised rewards to his Indians for American scalps. In June, 1777, he had been instructed by the Ministry to assemble Indians and “employ them in making a diversion and exciting an alarm upon the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania...” to support

them he was to recruit loyalists with promises of postwar bounties of two hundred acres, in addition to soldier’s pay.

On the Virginia frontier, since before the war, had been a tall, lithe, redhead with “black, penetrating, sparkling eyes,” named George Rogers Clark. He was young – only twenty-four in 1777 – but he had surveyed hundreds of miles of western lands and had helped the Kentuckians to organize a government and secure their recognition as a Virginia colony. By the time 1777 was well along as “the bloody year” on the frontier, Clark was an implacable foe of both Hamilton and his sovereign. Late that fall he set out for Williamsburg with a plan for the conquest of the British-held French villages north of the Ohio and ultimately of Detroit itself.

George Clark’s idea was not new. Early in the war there had been talk of an expedition against Detroit, but neither the Continental Congress nor the states set one in motion. In the spring of 1777, the Congress had sent Brigadier General Edward Hand to assume command at Fort Pitt, at the confluence of the Alleghany and the Monongahela rivers, and to organize a punitive expedition into the Ohio country. But Hand was surrounded by hostiles and was still at Fort Pitt when Clark trekked eastward to consult Governor Patrick Henry. In January, 1778, the Virginia Assembly commissioned Clark a lieutenant colonel of Virginia militia, granting him £1,200 and authority to draw supplies at Pittsburgh. Ostensibly he was to defend Kentucky. Secretly he was empowered to take the British post in the French town of Kaskaskia,

near the mouth of the river of the same name, and if possible, Detroit.

The young giant in hunting shirt hurried back to the banks of the Monongahela to recruit. It was not an easy thing, in a region whose whole population totaled only a few hundred souls, to persuade men to leave their homesteads thinly protected to go on a vaguely defined march against the Indians. But at length, on the twenty-fourth of June, 1778, leaving twenty families to defend a blockhouse of supplies on an island at the Falls of Ohio, Colonel Clark set out for Kaskaskia. His flotilla of flatboats carried 175 frontiersmen.

Four days later, the expedition entered the mouth of the Tennessee River and was floated and rowed to the ruins of the old French fort, Massaic, ten miles below. Here the men hid their boats. To travel the river farther and proceed by the Mississippi, Clark realized, would be to surrender advantage of surprise.

Next morning, guided by a party of hunters from Kaskaskia who joined him, Clark began a 120-mile march overland to his goal. Accustomed to travel, his men traveled light and fast, and reached the Kaskaskia, a mile from the town, on the evening of the fourth of July. Procuring boats, they ferried across the river in the dark. The only sound in the unsuspecting town of two hundred and fifty houses and a stone fort, they guessed to be “Negroes at a dance.” Dividing his little force, Colonel Clark surrounded the town, broke into the fort, and took Kaskaskia without firing a shot.

“Nothing could excel the confusion these people seemed to be in,” the colonel wrote

back to his old friend, George Mason, at Williamsburg, “being taught to expect nothing but savage treatment from the Americans. Giving all for lost... they were willing to be slaves to save their families.” But when the terrified French townspeople learned that France and America now were official allies and that the fierce-looking Americans would not molest them in their persons, property, or religion if they took an oath of fidelity to the state of Virginia, they “fell into transports of joy” and eagerly embraced the conquerors.

While a detachment of thirty of Clark’s men raced on borrowed mounts sixty miles to capture Cahokia, across the Mississippi from the friendly Spanish post of St. Louis, Father Pierre Gibault of Kaskaskia volunteered to travel to Vincennes and win over the French inhabitants. Two more posts accepted the Americans before Father Gibault returned, on the first of August, reporting complete success. Clark promptly sent Captain Leonard Helm to occupy Vincennes and its stronghold, Fort Sackville, and to assume command of the French militia there. He himself gave the rest of the summer to persuading his men not to return home and to a number of conferences in which he cajoled thousands of red chiefs and warriors into good behavior.

But the Virginian did not remain long unchallenged in the territory he had organized as the county of Illinois in the state of Virginia. In the fall, Colonel Hamilton made a hard, long march south from Detroit with some five hundred men, including about three hundred Indians, and in a swirling

snowstorm on December 17, retook Vincennes and captured its American garrison – Captain Helm and three soldiers.

While Clark hastened to prepare Kaskaskia for siege, Francis Vigo returned from Vincennes to inform him that “Mr. Hamilton had weakened himself by sending his Indians against the frontier... that he had not more than eighty men in garrison, three pieces of cannon and some swivels mounted and that he intended to attack this place as soon as the winter opened.” Vigo, a bold, liberty-loving Italian fur trader and merchant of St. Louis, upon the arrival of Clark had volunteered his energies and money to the Virginians expedition. At Clark’s request he had traveled northeast across the Wabash to spy out Vincennes. He had been a soldier, and the intelligence he brought – after capture and release by Hamilton – was full and explicit. On the basis of it, Clark decided not to await an attack; he resolved instead to carry war to Vincennes. The enemy, he thought, “could not suppose... we should be so mad as to attempt to march eighty leagues through a drowned country in the depth of winter, that they would be off their guard and probably would not think it worthwhile to keep out spies.”

“At this moment I would have bound myself a slave to have had five hundred troops,” Clark confessed, but he was obliged to make do with what he had. He built a large row galley and armed it with six light guns. In February, 1779, he sent it, manned by forty-six men, up the Ohio and Wabash to take station “ten leagues below the post Vincennes and wait until further orders.” He anticipated that the Wabash would be overflowed so broadly that the only way he would be able to move his artillery and stores was by boat. Should Hamilton by some chance learn of his approach and try to escape down the Mississippi, the row galley was to capture him.

At the head of only a hundred and seventy men, nearly

half French volunteers, he himself set out overland for Vincennes, two hundred and forty long, cold miles away. Although some of the march lay through “the most beautiful country in the world,” it was also some of the worst at this season. The four rivers he must cross flooded the prairies, and about Vincennes the water spread five miles wide. “We set out,” said the colonel, “on a forlorn hope indeed. For our whole party with the boat’s crew consisted of only a little upwards of two hundred. I cannot account for it, but I still had inward assurance of success and never could, when weighing every circumstance, doubt it.”

Here, twenty miles from their goal, began the drowned lands, country almost entirely inundated. The two branches of the Little Wabash were now one, flowing together in a solid sheet of water five miles broad, broken only by the forest of naked trees awash, and rearing from its surface into the icy February air. Clark said he “viewed this sheet of water from some time with distrust.” But he overcame his doubts and ordered his men to build a great canoe and a platform above water on the opposite shore. He ferried supplies in the canoe and piled them on the scaffold, then swam the horses across and loaded them. He led his men splashing through three feet of water to the far branch of the river and camped. “A little antic drummer afforded them great diversion,” remarked the colonel, “by floating on the drum.”

Pushing through water breast-high on the twenty-third of February, the force emerged from the bottom lands in the early afternoon and halted on a small knoll in sight of Vincennes. From the hill, Colonel Clark sent a letter to the inhabitants announcing his presence and his intention of taking the post that night, and warning them to stay indoors. In the evening, after parading his troops round and round behind hills to give the impression of a thousand men, Clark led them

in wading through deep water to the rising ground on which the town stood. “With colors flying and drums braced,” they entered the town about eight o’clock and took possession, while a company of fourteen went to fire on the fort. One of Clark’s captains noted, “Smart firing all night on both sides. The cannon played smartly, not one of our men wounded... fine sport for the sons of Liberty.”

About eight in the morning, Clark sent a flag to Hamilton demanding unconditional surrender, which Hamilton curtly refused. After noon, however, the Englishman asked for a parley at the town church, but the enemies could not agree on terms, and Hamilton returned to the fort. During the afternoon, Hamilton reported later to his superior, a party of Indians returning from a scout were attacked by Clark’s men and two were killed and one wounded. Hamilton was told:

“The rest were surrounded and taken bound to the village where being set in the street opposite the fort gate, they were put to death, notwithstanding a truce at that moment existed... One of them was tomahawked immediately. The rest, sitting on the ground in a ring, bound, seeing by the fate of their comrade what they had to expect, the next on his left sung his death song and was in turn tomahawked. The rest underwent the same... One only was saved by the intercession of a rebel officer who pleaded for him, telling Colonel Clark that the savage’s father had formerly saved his life.

The chief of this party, after having the hatchet stuck in his head, took it out himself and delivered it to the inhuman monster who struck him first, who repeated his stroke a second and a third time, after which the miserable spectacle was dragged by the rope around his neck to the river, thrown in, and suffered to spend still a few moments of life in fruitless strugglings...

Colonel Clark, yet reeking with the blood of these

unhappy victims, came to the esplanade before the fort gate, where I had agreed to meet him and treat of the surrender of the garrison. He spoke with rapture of his late achievement, while he washed the blood from his hand stained in this inhuman sacrifice.”

Hamilton’s report was not exaggerated. Clark candidly admitted his act, saying it was merely a matter of policy. He hoped that the execution of the redmen before their friends would persuade them that the English could not or would not give them the protection they had been promised and would incense them against the British.

Colonel Henry Hamilton chose to surrender to an almost certain prison confinement rather than risk the lives of his men, but he insisted on including in the articles of capitulation an article relating his reasons for giving up his Post: the remoteness from succor, the state and quantity of provisions, the unanimity of officers and men on its expediency, the honorable terms allowed and lastly his confidence in a generous enemy. At ten o’clock, the twenty-fifth of February, 1779, the American colors rose above Fort Sackville.

George Rogers Clark, the hardened woodsman who matter-of-factly slew the redman wherever he encountered him, did not wreck vengeance upon Hamilton’s garrison. The enlisted men were paroled and the officers marched off for Virginia. There Hamilton was to be confined.

Sources:

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