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®

## **BATTLE LINES**

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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WINTER 2013-2014

### **NEW MEMBER WELCOME**

We extend a warm welcome to the following new compatriots.

David B. Goebel – Nassau, NY  
Joshua P. Goebel – Nassau, NY  
Steven E. Goebel – Bemus Point, NY  
Christopher J. Holmes – Woodbridge, VA  
John L. Holmes – Woodbridge, VA  
Bernard D. Mericle – Schenectady, NY  
Philip J. Mosher – Little Falls, NY  
William R. Poppino – Schenectady, NY  
Daniel P. Snow – Justin, TX  
Richard J. Snow – Fort Worth, TX  
Theodore W. Snow, Jr. – Roanoke, VA

We also welcome the following new dual state member:

John P. Zafiris, Jr. – Billerica, MA

Assistant Registrar Booth reports that our chapter membership now stands at 194.

### **IN OUR MEMORY**

We were saddened to learn of the death of chapter member James Carroll Oakes on December 12, 2013. James was an avid sportsman and a gifted athlete and was proud of his SAR membership. In accordance with the family's wishes the chapter made a donation to the American Cancer Society. Our condolences go out to his family.

### **WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY DINNER AND ANNUAL MEETING**

A most eventful gathering was held at the Century House in Latham on February 22. A very nice turnout of members and guests enjoyed a nice dinner and a most interesting talk by Jim Hughto, a volunteer and guide at Saratoga National Historical Park. Jim's talk centered on the four men honored in niches on the Saratoga Battle Monument in Schuylerville and their contributions to the battles of Saratoga.

Treasurer Gallant reported a very healthy balance on hand and the Registrar and Asst. Registrar reported 183 members as of February 22.

The Audit Committee, consisting of Dennis Marr and Duane Booth, reported the findings of the audit they performed on the chapter's books and records for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2012. No discrepancies were noted and several housekeeping suggestions were made and have been implemented by the Treasurer.

New members Ford Oxaal and Michael Skelly were on hand to receive their membership certificates, and George Malinoski received a Supplemental certificate.

President Dunne announced that NSSAR has authorized a Chapter Distinguished Service Medal, comparable to the medal previously authorized for state societies. As this was the first time such medals were to be presented at the chapter level, a number of immediate past presidents were also allowed to present the medal. This award is at the sole discretion of the chapter president and is for services performed during his term. Recipients, and the chapter president making the award, were as follows:

Dennis F. Marr – Pres. Thomas Dunne  
Michael Companion – Past Pres. Richard Fullam  
Duane Booth – Past Pres. Jonathan Goebel  
Dennis Booth – Past Pres. Duane Booth

Pres. Dunne also presented the Color Guard Medal to compatriot Peter Hormell.

We were honored to have ESSAR President Richard W. Sage in attendance and who brought greetings from the Empire State Society. Richard was among the 2013 recipients of the Minuteman Award, the highest award of the NSSAR. In addition, two of our past chapter presidents were present, and both are also Minuteman recipients: Peter K. Goebel and Jonathan E. Goebel. Having three Minuteman award recipients together in the room lent additional luster to the proceedings.

### MEMBER SERVICE CERTIFICATES PRESENTED

A number of compatriots earned service certificates and pins representing the duration of their SAR membership.

**45 Years – CDR William G. Loveday, Jr.**

**35 Years – Kurt H. Kilmer**

**30 Years – Lewis O. Slocum; Maj. G. Wm. Glidden**

**25 Years – Charles W. King; Daniel J. Mead; Douglas “Tim” Mabee; Dr. Garrett A. Wirth; Stanley A. Ransom, Jr.**

**20 Years**

**Albert J. Goodwin, Jr.; A. Parks Honeywell; Carl D. Wirth; CDR Charles R. “Chuck” Lampman; COL Peter K. Goebel; Dennis F. Marr; Dennis G. Booth; Duane Booth; Harry G. Taylor, Jr.; John T. Manning; Jonathan E. Goebel; Kevin M. Marr; Paul H. Goebel; William E. Davidson; William T. Markham**



Dennis Marr, Duane Booth, Peter Goebel and Jonathan Goebel were on hand to receive their certificates; Sandra Marr accepted for her son Kevin and Alice Goebel accepted for her son Paul.

### **Distinguished Service Awards Presented**



**Dennis F. Marr**



**Michael S. Companion**



**Duane P. Booth**

**Peter Hormell Receives  
Bronze Color Guard Medal**



We were also pleased to have present Mary Oxaal, Schuyler Society C.A.R. Senior President, Joseph Fitzpatrick, President of the Schoharie-Leatherstocking Chapter and John Sheaff, President of the Walloomsac Battle Chapter.

## **VAN SCHAICK MANSION PROJECT**

**The Saratoga Battle Chapter - Sons of the American Revolution encourages chapter members to assist the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter – NSDAR by getting the word out to the community about a very important fund-raising effort to repair and operate the Historic Van Schaick Mansion.**

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### **From A Letter To Mansion Visitors**

**“This letter asks your support for the Van Schaick Mansion Project. The Van Schaick Mansion, a precious jewel in our nation's history, served as military headquarters for the French and Indian Wars and for the Northern Army in anticipation of the Battles of Saratoga. But, did you know that the historic Van Schaick Mansion is an architectural gem, combining influences from the English, Dutch, Flemish, Danish, Norwegian, African, and Spanish cultures in its many-storied rooms, and is the only structure of its kind still in existence in this country?**

**We are indebted to individual DAR members and to community patrons who have helped us keep the mansion operating in the black since our purchase of the house in 2001, but we must now reach out to our visitors to ask that you consider helping us repair our roof.**

**This precious historical mansion built circa 1735, requires ongoing structural preservation. Our most pressing issue is the stabilization of the roof. Although we have a daily operating cost of \$45, or \$16,425 annually, the roof itself will cost \$12,500. Now we are at a critical point where we must ask our visitors and our community to help us keep the mansion going – and our first priority is our roof.**

**The mansion oversight committee has decided that this is a reachable amount and is asking each of you to help us meet this goal. The committee is offering an opportunity to you to memorialize your donation with a brick installed in our "Walkway to the Past." Whatever amount you can offer is graciously accepted, but if an individual donates an amount of \$250, we offer a free brick (value of \$50). If an individual donates \$500, we offer a free large brick (value of \$100) for installation.**

**Additionally, donors will be invited to our special events such as NYS Heritage Day held on June 9, 2013. We also maintain a plaque in the front hallway of the mansion updated each year, and it acknowledges the donation of \$1,000 or more from individuals, families and organizations who help us keep the mansion going. Finally, our donors will be invited to a V.I.P. Tour of the Mansion where we will display the treasures of this house.**

**We thank you in advance for your support, and we encourage you to visit the house: We have recently joined the Blue Star Museums and this past summer offered free admission to active duty members of the military and their families..."**

**"... We invite your participation as we offer tours, special speakers and presenters, and we appreciate your support. Our chapter did a good thing in 2001 when we purchased the house, and now, 12 years on, we have accomplished many more good things."**

**.....**  
**Compatriots interested in assisting with this worthy project can find information and donation form at:**

**[http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/images/photos/sbc\\_sar\\_vanschaick/vanschaick\\_mansionproject\\_letter-brickform.pdf](http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/images/photos/sbc_sar_vanschaick/vanschaick_mansionproject_letter-brickform.pdf)**