

BATTLE LINES

VOL. 1, NO. 2

JULY, 1997

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER - SAR

CHAPTER NEWS

IN OUR MEMORY

We were saddened to learn that Patricia C. Childs, wife of Compatriot and former Chapter President Clyde W. Childs, Jr., lost her valiant struggle with cancer on June 10th. Pat entered into eternal rest surrounded by her loving family. We will all miss her. Compatriots Marr and Covell represented the Chapter at the wake and funeral, and flowers were sent on behalf of the Chapter.

Treasurer Rick Saunders advises that he has learned that Compatriot Norman Schworm has passed away, but that no further details are available at this time.

JUDY ROWE RECOGNIZED

Our speaker at the June Luncheon Meeting, Mrs. Gertrude (Judy) Rowe was pleasantly surprised to receive the SAR Medal of Appreciation at the conclusion of her talk on the Underground Railroad. Judy has been a constant booster for SAR and Saratoga Battle and President Marr was delighted to be able to afford her this recognition from the Society.

CHAMBLY, QUEBEC MEMORIAL

Compatriot and past Chapter President Bill Glidden sent along a nice note explaining that he would not be able to attend the June luncheon. Bill represented our Chapter at the memorial service for General Thomas and the men who fell at the Battle of Chambly in 1776. In a separate note, Bill mentioned that SAR Bronze Good Citizenship medals were awarded at high schools in Ausable Valley, Peru and Plattsburgh, NY. A hearty thanks to Bill for this sterling representation of our Chapter.

SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD COMMEMORATIONS

Our Chapter has been invited to participate in this coming September's 220th Anniversary celebration of the battles at Saratoga. 1st NY Continental and Saratoga Battle will conduct

a wreath-laying ceremony at the monument. On the following day there will be a short commemorative service. Compatriot Bert Armington of the Connecticut Society, a National Trustee and representative of the SAR Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee, is overseeing these events. He promises at least two re-enactment groups from CT: the 2nd Continental Light Dragoons and the 6th Connecticut Regiment. There will be many other events going on during this same time, and it looks to be an exciting and memorable occasion. More details as they become available. Our thanks to Bert Armington as well as Dick Sage and Charles Galbraith of 1st NY Continental for including us in this commemoration.

CHAPTER HISTORY COMMITTEE

In speaking with some of our veteran compatriots over the past couple of months, it has become a concern of President Marr that we seem to have very little in the way of records/archives that would shed light on the history of our chapter. As a start to remedy this situation, Compatriot Carlton Covell will chair a committee to begin gathering written and anecdotal information pertaining to our Chapter; he will be assisted by Compatriots Marr and Robert Crocetta, a past Chapter President and a walking history book of the Chapter. We call upon all compatriots to provide us with originals or photocopies of anything pertaining to chapter events, officers, etc. Dinner programs, newspaper clippings, meeting agendas.....anything before 1990 will be helpful.

HISTORIC MARKER FOR PATRIOT SAMUEL DOWNEY

Compatriot Lou Decker of Stone Arabia Battle Chapter (he is also Montgomery County Historian) has asked if our Chapter would be interested in sharing the cost of erecting an historical marker in Edinburg, Saratoga County, honoring Rev. War soldier Samuel Downey. Samuel was one of the last surviving Rev. War pensioners. We will be happy to cooperate with Lou in this.

BATTLE LINES

ANCESTOR CORNER

By Compatriot Harry Taylor

I would like to tell you about one of my Revolutionary War ancestors, Richard Pangburn. Richard served four terms of about eight weeks to three months each in several units of the Albany County Militia. Some quotes from his declaration to obtain a pension, based upon his first enlistment:

"His Captain's name was Cornelius Sanford - his Lieutenant's name was Peter Becker, or Henry Becker.....he does not recollect which - one was lieutenant and the other was ensign."

"He was stationed first in the barracks at Albany. He staid there a short time...then the company was marched to Saratoga Landing."

"While he was (there) he and the others were employed in transporting military stores in batteaux from Stillwater on the Hudson river up to Saratoga Landing, and from Saratoga Landing by team around the falls, and then again in batteaux up the river to Fort Miller. Among the articles they transported was a large chain in several pieces. Two links and a swivel of the chain were as much as two men, by running a handspike through the link, could conveniently carry on board of the batteau."

"He states that General Montgomery was killed in that quarter (apparently north of Fort Ticonderoga) at that time and his wife came back, and that he carried his wife down in a batteau from Saratoga Landing to Stillwater on her return."

Richard later served under Col. Quackenbush as well as General Tenbrook (sic), Captain Van Wie, Col. Van Rensselaer, Col. Dubois and Capt. Philip Luke.

Richard Pangburn was born May 22, 1748 in Woodbridge, NJ. He married on Sept. 28, 1769, Cathalyntje Van Etten, at the Reformed Dutch Church of Albany. At the time of his intital entry into military service, he lived at "Nisket-haugh" (now Bethlehem) in Albany County. He and his wife had eleven children. His ninth child, James Pangburn, married Alida Van Wie, the daughter of another of my Revolutionary War ancestors, Isaac Van Wie. Richard probably died in Owego, Tioga County, NY, his last reported residence, in 1836 or 1839. I have no record of his wife's place or date of death.

DUES REMINDER

Treasurer Saunders reminds me that several compatriots have yet to pay their current year's dues. If you have overlooked this, the Chapter and Society will appreciate your attending to it as soon as you can. Many thanks.

PATRIOT INDEX IN WORKS

You may have noted in the current issue of the *SAR Magazine* that work on the SAR Patriot Index is progressing nicely. According to the article, the index should be ready by the time of the 1998 Annual Congress. It is to be published in CD-ROM format. This will allow for very rapid searching via computer. It is expected to cost around \$60, with a \$10 discount for pre-publication purchases. I will be adding this to my Rev. War references and will make it available to any compatriots needing a search done. SAR points out that this CD may not be used as proof in an application: it is an index of records on file at National Headquarters and those records themselves must still be used and referred to.

LOCAL MAN TO RECEIVE DAR CONSERVATION AWARD

We have been informed by the Fort Crailo Chapter, NSDAR, that they have recommended Peter Dubacher of the Berkshire Bird Paradise for the National DAR Conservation Award. The presentation will be July 11th at 7 p.m. at the East Greenbush Library on Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush. SAR's have graciously been invited to attend by Fort Crailo President Bernice O'Neill. Mr. Dubacher will speak about his work at the sanctuary and will bring an American Bald Eagle for us to see. Please contact Compatriot Marr if you need additional information.

MEMBER/ANCESTOR SURVEY

Enclosed with this newsletter, each member of Saratoga Battle will receive a brief survey form regarding basic data on him and his Rev. War ancestor(s). Member applications cannot be used for this as they are private papers. We may be able to produce a member directory/ancestor book from this.

Dennis Marr, Editor