

BATTLE LINES

VOL. 1, NO. 3

SEPTEMBER, 1997

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER - SAR

CHAPTER NEWS

IN OUR MEMORY

We have received a nice note from Midge Duxbury, daughter of our late Compatriot Norman Schworm, whose passing was noted briefly in the last issue of *Battle Lines*. Midge tells us that her dad was very proud of his SAR membership. Norman, who died at the age of 87, retired in 1971 after 40 years in security at General Electric in Schenectady. He was a member of the Schenectady County Republican Committee and was an active Mason. Our condolences to his family.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Robert Newton, father of past Saratoga Battle and ESSAR President Ronald E. Newton. Mr. Newton, a member of the Washington, DC Chapter, died on July 2 at the age of 85. He had completed two volumes of the Newton family history and was at work on volume three when he died. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family and to Ron Newton, who now has the task of finishing his dad's work on the family history.

JAMES MARTIN ENTERS AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Compatriot James Edwin Martin, son of Compatriot George Dewey Martin and Candice Martin of Gloversville, recently entered basic training at the US Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. Jim will be a member of the class of 2001. He was an Honors Graduate at Gloversville High School and received numerous scholarly awards; he was a member of the varsity soccer and track teams and played lead alto saxophone in the jazz and symphonic bands. An Eagle Scout, Jim was appointed to the Academy by Rep. John M. McHugh. He will major in engineering science. Our best wishes to Jim for success in his educational and military careers, and our congratulations to him and his proud parents.

SARATOGA BATTLE ENDORSES CHARLES GALBRAITH FOR G.G.

The officers of Saratoga Battle have voted unanimously and enthusiastically to endorse the candidacy of Compatriot Charles Thomas Galbraith of 1st New York Continental for the office of Genealogist General for the term 1998-1999. As many of you know, Charles is a professional genealogist and a tireless worker for SAR at the Chapter, State and National levels. He recently was awarded the Florence Kendall medal for signing the most new members of any compatriot in the nation. He has also led the effort to raise funds to purchase NYS census microfilm for use at headquarters in Louisville, helping to alleviate the embarrassing deficit in NYS census films there. As a working, professional genealogist, Charles would bring his insight and acumen to this important office. We are, after all, a lineage society, and proper genealogy and documentation is the name of the game. Your individual letters of support of his candidacy can be directed to:

Compatriot Reon G. Hillegass, JR
Chairman NSSAR Nominating Committee
801 Stockley Gardens
Norfolk, VA 23507

SAMUEL DOWNING HISTORICAL MARKER

Compatriots Marr and Covell met with Lou Decker and members of the Stone Arabia Battle chapter at Broadalbin on July 21 to discuss plans for the historical marker to be placed near Samuel's farm in Edinburg in Saratoga county; also in attendance was Samuel's descendent Chuck Downing. Our two chapters will split the anticipated cost of approximately \$600. It is hoped that the marker can be put in place this fall before the cold weather sets in. More on this later as plans are finalized.

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SAR PLAQUE RESTORED

The SAR plaque at the Saratoga Battlefield, which had fallen into disrepair due to attempts at vandalism and exposure to the elements, has been refurbished. This plaque was erected by our chapter in its incarnation as the Admiral George Browne Chapter in the 1970's. Compatriot Duane Booth took care of all of the details on this project, for which we owe him our hearty thanks. The plaque will be reinstalled by park officials. Gina Johnson, the Events Coordinator at the Saratoga National Park, has promised us our own rededication ceremony in the spring. The plaque was repaired at a cost of \$125, plus shipping it back and forth to Long Island.

GANSEVOORT DAR INVITATION

The Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, DAR has invited interested Saratoga Battle members to their luncheon meeting at noon, September 28 at the Mohawk Club in Schenectady. The speaker will be former Saratoga Battle member Chuck Lampman, now of California. Send \$13 to Betty LaDu, Treas., 7 Robin Hood Rd., Albany, NY 12203.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING

We hope to make another good showing for the current fiscal year in the area of new membership. We already have several new members approved and several more pending. All compatriots can help with this, either by recommending grandchildren, nephews, etc. as well as by spreading the word about SAR when the opportunity presents itself.

SAR GRAVES REGISTER

Registrar Marr has recently purchased for his reference library a copy of the 1993 SAR Graves Register. This book lists over 25,000 patriot grave sites as extracted from member application information. Let Registrar Marr know if you need to have anyone looked up in this reference. I understand that a new edition of this book is in preparation.

ANCESTOR CORNER

Due to space constraints, Ancestor Corner had to be eliminated this issue. Look for it in the November newsletter.

BATTLE OF SARATOGA COMMEMORATION

Exciting events are planned for the weekend of September 19-21 at the Saratoga National Historical Park. This year marks the 220th anniversary of the battles for Saratoga. We are happy that SAR will be prominently featured during these events. Things kick off at 3:30 pm on Friday, Sept. 19 with music and a massing of American and British troops. Between 5:00 and 5:30 pm on the 19th, SAR will have a wreath-laying ceremony. On Saturday there will be a memorial service and wreath-laying at the Nielson House on the park grounds between 10:00 and 10:30 am. We need a compatriot with a good camera and photography skills to take photos on the 19th and 20th; please call Pres. Marr on this.

A special postal commemorative envelope featuring an SAR emblem will be canceled by the post office to mark our participation in the celebrations and will be available for \$3.00, the proceeds going to the Turning Point Committee to help defray their expenses.

Saratoga Battle and 1st NY Continental will be co-hosting a quarterly ESSSAR Board of Managers meeting on Saturday the 20th. Full details are enclosed.

MEMBER/ANCESTOR SURVEY

Responses have been slowly coming in to the questionnaires sent with the last newsletter asking for member profiles and information on our ancestors. If you have not yet attended to this, please take a few moments to do so. We need to have everyone respond so that any directory that we may do will be complete.

CHAPTER HISTORY

Thanks to past chapter president Lew Slocum for dropping off two cartons of chapter historical records. They contain file folders from 1974 to 1990 and document many events in the life of our chapter during that time, including its various name changes. There is also a binder of information on the original Saratoga Chapter, founded in 1905 in Saratoga Springs. This will provide us with a fine starting point in preparing a history of our chapter.

Dennis Marr, Editor