

BATTLE LINES

VOL. 2, NO. 5

SEPTEMBER, 1998

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER - SAR

CHAPTER NEWS

Compatriot Robert Baldwin has accepted the position of Chairman of the chapter Eagle Scout program. Robert's many years of experience in scouting will stand him in good stead in the carrying out of this vital SAR program.

A small group of compatriots enjoyed a fine afternoon at the Berkshire Bird Paradise in Petersburg, NY on August 2nd. Sanctuary Director Peter Dubacher gave us an inside look at his fine work in rehabilitating sick and injured birds, particularly American eagles.

The chapter's annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Saratoga National Historical Park (Saratoga Battlefield) will be held on Saturday, September 19th. We will meet at 1pm at the DAR Monument at Stop 2 on the Tour Road. The Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR will be joining us in this ceremony. Peter Dubacher will be on hand with an American eagle to add grandeur to this event. We will then proceed to the Visitors' Center where we will conduct a chapter meeting. After the meeting, we will adjourn to Cohans On The Lake, at the north end of Saratoga Lake, for a buffet on the screened-in deck overlooking the lake. See enclosed flyer for complete details. This promises to be a memorable and enjoyable start to the 1998-1999 meeting season.

Saratoga Battle was invited to participate or display membership information at several genealogical events recently. The Heritage Hunters of Saratoga Springs invited is to display our literature at their annual Ancestor Fair in Ballston Spa on August 15. On August 22, Dennis Marr brought his Revolutionary War reference books to the annual Lineage Society Day sponsored by the Capital District Genealogical Society in Albany.

A truly special event was held in Sand Lake, NY on August 23. This was the first Uline Family Reunion, held by descendants of

Barnhardt Uhlein who served in the Albany County Militia. Barnhardt is a brand-new Revolutionary War qualifying ancestor, having been used for a recent DAR application. The related research was done by Judy Rowe, Sand Lake Town Historian and member of the Fort Crailo Chapter, DAR. Judy, you may recall, received the SAR Medal of Appreciation last year for her longstanding service to our chapter in the area of research and recruitment. It was through Judy's help that Pres. Marr was invited to this reunion to give a brief presentation on SAR. Since every attendee was eligible for SAR/DAR/CAR, this family may prove a fruitful source of new members, both for our chapter as well as for other chapters in the various states in which these folks live. A warm thank-you to Judy and to Ruth Wollenberg of Minnesota, who organized this event and graciously included SAR in it.

Pres. Marr and his wife Sandra attended the Atlantic Middle States Conference held in Wilmington, DE July 24-25. This is an annual combined meeting of the North Atlantic and Middle Atlantic Districts. The Delaware Society, as host society, did a wonderful job of lining up accommodations and events for compatriots and their spouses to enjoy.

Traditionally, this Conference kicks off the political year for NSSAR, so a number of SAR national officers and candidates for office were on hand, including PG Page and PG candidate Howard Horne. The Conference unanimously voted for the following candidates for national office for the year 1999-2000:

President General - Howard Horne, DE
Vice PG, Mid-Atlantic - Marshall Lignan, PA
Secretary General - Bruce Butler, LA
Treasurer General - Bert Sells, OH
Registrar General - Lawrence Loker, MO
Chancellor General - B. Rice Aston, TX
Historian General - Larry McClanahan, TN
Genealogist General - Charles Galbraith, NY

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ANCESTOR CORNER

by Compatriot Harry G. Taylor, Jr.

My patriot ancestor Isaac Van Wie was probably born in Bethlehem, Albany county. The son of Andries Van Wie and Helena Van Arnhem, he was baptized 30 July 1755 in the Reformed Dutch Church in Albany, also known as the First Dutch Church. Much of what we know of Isaac comes from his declaration for a revolutionary war pension.

Isaac enlisted in the militia in 1776 at Albany and served under a "Captain John" (possibly John Van Wie). His unit marched to Schoharie with fifteen wagon loads of powder to supply the troops and militia at Fort Plain. They remained there for a period of time and then returned to Bethlehem.

He again enlisted in the year 1777 under Capt. Baltus Van Benthuyzen in a company of artificers and they were employed in building and constructing boats for the transport of men and stores at Skeensborough, Lake George and Ticonderoga.

In the year following the capture of Burgoyne and his army, Isaac was ordered out with the militia under Capt. Volkert Veeder and Lt. Col. Barent I. Staats. They marched from Albany or Bethlehem to Schoharie at the time the enemy and indians were committing depredations on the frontier in that vicinity and up the Mohawk River valley.

Isaac married Nellie Osterhout, daughter of Wiliam and Mary Decker, at the Albany Dutch Church on 4 August 1780. They had nine children, seven baptized at the Albany Dutch Church while residing in Bethlehem, and two at the Jerusalem Reformed Church while residing in Feura Bush, just south of Bethlehem in Albany county.

Isaac died 19 May 1843 at Stony Hill, NY in the town of New Scotland, Albany county. As with so many of our patriot ancestors, his burial site is unknown to us at this time.

COMING EVENTS

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the Empire State Society will be held in Syracuse on Saturday, Sept. 12th. This will be the first meeting at which Dennis Marr will preside as State President, and chapter members are encouraged to attend if possible. We will meet at 11 am at the Genesee Inn Executive Quarters, 1060 E. Genesee St. Contact Dennis for reservation form and directions.

A chapter meeting is tentatively planned for sometime in November. We have applied to the National Office for permission to award the SAR Gold Good Citizenship medal to an outstanding patriotic individual from our chapter area who has performed numerous acts of good citizenship at the national level. Pres. Marr will be at the National Board of Trustees meeting in Louisville on Sept. 26 to make the case in person. This award requires the approval of the National Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

At the September meeting, Pres. Marr will be appointing the Nominating Committee for the coming year. They will report a recommended slate of officers at the following meeting and the election will be at our annual Washington's Birthday dinner next February. Pres. Marr will be stepping down after two years as Chapter President, but will continue as Registrar/Genealogist for as long as his services are needed and wanted.

The semi-annual meeting of the National Board of Trustees will take place in Louisville on Sept. 25-26. It is at this meeting and at the one in March that the business of the National society gets done. Your editor looks forward to this, his first Trustees' meeting, as well as to serving on the National Genealogy Committee under Compatriot Charles T. Galbraith, FACG, of First NY Continental.

A special appeal will be forthcoming for funds to purchase NYS census microfilm for the Library at Louisville.

Dennis F.M. Marr
Editor