



Membership Welcomes New Officers During Annual Meeting

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.

Members of the Saratoga Battle Chapter, SAR welcomed new officers during the Annual Meeting & Washington's Birthday Luncheon on February 19. About 27 people attended the meeting, held for the first time at Longfellow's Hotel & Restaurant in Saratoga Springs. Nearly a dozen more joined the meeting via Zoom teleconference.

The group conducted traditional opening invocations before the luncheon, and welcomed new member Patrick Greene, whose membership honors his Patriot Ancestor Thomas Buswell.

Greene is among several new members who come

at a time of declining membership. Chapter membership dropped to 220 from 233 in September 2021, including 12 drops and six resignations.

Following the luncheon, new officers were selected for two-year terms.

Nominating Committee Chairman Duane Booth read the nominations, as follows: Genealogist: Duane Booth; Historian: Karl L. Danneil; Chaplain: Charles W. Wheeler; Registrar: Thomas L. Dunne; Treasurer: David L. Flint; Secretary: Michael A. Hernandez; 2nd Vice President: Timothy D. Keenan; 1st Vice President: Michael R. Skelly; President: Edward W. Munger Jr.

Booth thanked members

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Past Chapter President Peter K. Goebel swore in the 2022-2024 officers during the Annual Meeting at Longfellow's in Saratoga Springs on February 19, 2022. Pictured L-R are: Goebel, President Edward Munger Jr.; Chaplain: Charles W. Wheeler; Treasurer David L. Flint; 1st Vice President Michael R. Skelly; Secretary Michael A. Hernandez and Genealogist Duane Booth. Photo by Jenn Munger.

Patriot Honors Planned

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.

The Saratoga Battle Chapter Color Guard will join in honoring Patriot John Nicholas Bleecker, a Revolutionary War soldier and early

Albany resident, during a grave marker dedication May 7.

The Mohawk Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American

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Upcoming Events

May 7th: Mohawk Chapter DAR Ceremony, Section 32 Albany Rural Cemetery, Color guard and musket firing

June 5th: Stephentown Historical Society, 1 PM Stephentown NY Color guard

August 7: Turning Point Parade 1PM

August 16: Battle of Bennington SAR Ceremony 6 PM at Walloomsac battlefield color guard and artillery salutes

August 27: SAR Battle of Brooklyn Commemoration, Old Stone House, 11-2 color guard and artillery salutes

September 18, 2022—Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony With Daughters of the American Revolution at Stop 2 and September Meeting

October 17: Fort Hardy Park Surrender Day Ceremony with artillery salutes and demos for school groups

November 11: Veterans Day - National Cemetery (tentative) – color guard

Please stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for updates. Below is a link to our website:

<http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/>

Letters Welcome

Compatriots and their loved ones and others with input regarding the American Revolution, the Saratoga Battle Chapter or other germane topics are

Newsletter, C/O Ed Munger, President, Saratoga Battle Chapter SAR, 319 Kings Road, Schenectady, New York, 12304.

Letters can also be sent via email to:



encouraged to send letters for inclusion in an upcoming edition of *BATTLE LINES*.

president@saratogabattle-sar.org

Send letters to: Battle Lines

Welcome New Members!

| New Member | Patriot Ancestor |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jeffrey R. Sammons, Burnt Hills, NY | Ens. Sampson Sammons-NY |
| James G. Warwick, Baltimore, MD | Capt. Peleg Ransom-NY |
| Wyatt N. Moore, Lake Luzerne, NY | Lt. Col. Abraham Tyler-CT |
| Transfer In From Georgia Society | |
| Roche, Andrew James-Scotia, NY | PS Christian Diehl-PA |
| Roche, William Joseph-Scotia, NY | PS Christian Diehl-PA |
| Supplemental Applications Approved | |
| Jeremy S. Shank | Ens. Nathaniel Chandler-NH |

Meet Your Chapter Chaplain Charles Wheeler

Submitted by Charles W. Wheeler Jr..

A native of Albany NY, he graduated with a business degree from Utica College and then served in the US Army in Vietnam as a 1st Lieutenant. Following his discharge I entered the hotel convention center industry where he worked for 40 plus years. My last position prior to retirement was as Facility Manager for the Saratoga Racecourse.

My interest in American military history started as a youngster influenced by learning I was a descendant of Col. Josiah Whitney of the 2nd MA Militia (1779) and family members serving as Adjutant General



from the French and Indian War through the Second World War. In 2002 I was invited to join the prestigious American Society of Arms Collectors. This organization has members from throughout the US, Canada and in Britain. The group is dedicated to research, preservation, and dissemination of

information on Arms and Armor. One of my prized bits of memorabilia is a First Model Brown Bess that was carried by a soldier in the Royal Fusiliers (21st of Foot) on the Saratoga Battlefield where it was surrendered in October 1777.

I purchased my first antique weapon at an age 11. Over the years I studied the weapons utilized by Americans

for the NY National Guard at the turn of the century Army as well as officers in both the First and Second World Wars.

Cemetery Seeks Grant To Honor Dozens Of Patriots

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.

Covering Over 280 acres, Oakwood Cemetery in Troy is renowned for architecture, natural beauty and the Gardner Earl Memorial Chapel and Crematorium, a National Historic Landmark and rare plants.

Now, caretakers are hoping to add another feature to recognize: Oakwood Cemetery is the final

resting place of dozens of Patriots of the American Revolution.

Caretakers have identified 39 Patriots whose contribution to the American Revolution has gone largely unrecognized.

The Saratoga Battle Chapter is assisting cemetery representatives with an application to the Pomeroy Foundation's Patriot Burials Marker

Grant Program.

The effort recognizes those who were involved in the fight for American Independence by funding the cost of an historic marker to identify the Patriots buried there.

The application process is currently underway, and a final application is due in late April.

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Membership Welcomes New officers ...

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of the committee for their work: Compatriots Douglass M. "Tim" Mabee, Past Chapter President Peter K. Goebel; and Past Chapter President and Chapter Registrar Thomas L. Dunne joined Booth in the selection process.

President Companion asked for nominations from the floor, none were presented. He called for the Chapter Secretary to cast a single vote to accept the nominating committee's ballot as presented. After casting the ballot, the new officers were called to the lectern by Past President Peter Goebel.

Compatriot Goebel conducted a

swear-in ceremony, presented President Munger with the Chapter gavel and then introduced the chapter's new slate of officers to the membership.

President Munger presented Past President Companion with the Past President's Pin and Certificate and thanked him for his service to the chapter. Companion expressed appreciation for those who helped during his presidency.

President Munger called for any new business. Past president Michael Companion drew attention to the Covell Award. Following discussion, the assembly voted in approval of the chapter's continued support.

President Munger informed the

group of the Zoom Meetings Class Action mailing received by the Chapter. Details of the settlement are at the website

zoommeetingsclassaction.com

Pursuing the settlement agreement is cost-free and, following a brief discussion, the group agreed to pursue the \$25 settlement offered in the postcard.

Past President Michael Companion alerted officers there was a need for color guard recognition medals. A brief discussion followed on the medals currently in the chapter's possession.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Sunday, September 18 at a time and place to be determined.



Still In Place

The statue of Revolutionary War Patriot Gen. Philip Schuyler continues to greet guests at the entranceway to Albany City Hall in this image taken March 23, 2022.

The statue was a gift to the city from George C. Hawley in memory of his wife, Theodora M. Hawley.



Patriot honors ...

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Revolution is holding a dedication ceremony at Albany Rural Cemetery.

Bleecker's descendant Dirk VanDerwerker will share a biography of his ancestor during the event.

The Village Volunteers Fife & Drum Corps, the Mohawk DAR, and family members are among those expected to attend.

Chapter members are welcomed to join the group to honor this patriot with his family.

Bleecker (1739 – 1825), was a Captain in the Albany County Militia and played a role in bringing cannons and mortars 300 miles from Ticonderoga to Boston during the winter of 1776.

The gathering will take place at 11 a.m. at Albany Rural Cemetery, Section 32 – Lot 9 – Grave 6.

Cemetery seeks grant ...

(Continued from page 3)

The Saratoga Battle Chapter is sponsoring projects to get recognition for Patriots.

Those aware of unmarked Patriot

burial sites are encouraged to contact the chapter.

You can also learn more about the Patriot Burials Marker Grant Program on the website of the Pomeroy Foundation at the following

link:

<https://www.wgpfoundation.org/history/patriot-burials-grant-program/>

Rest in Peace

We express our condolences to the family and friends of our departed members.

In their names, we renew our commitment to upholding the Patriot values they embraced in their lives.

- * Richard C. "Dick" Saunders Sr.
- * Byron D. Roff
- * Randy A. Agard

Chapter Supporting Veterans

The Saratoga Battle Chapter provided support to several organizations during the past year.

Recipients included the following:

| Recipient | Donation |
|--|--|
| Wreaths Across America | \$150 |
| Friends of Saratoga Battlefield | \$50 in Memory of Randy Agard |
| Friends of Saratoga Battlefield | \$50 in Memory of Richard Saunders Sr. |
| NYS Military Museum, Saratoga | \$100 |
| Children of the American Revolution | \$500 for Project Support |
| Rensselaer County Veterans Services Agency | \$100 for Ad |
| Friends of Saratoga Battlefield | \$100 for matching fund support |



New Member Welcomed

Chapter President Michael Companion swears in Compatriot Patrick Greene, one of several new members of the Saratoga Battle Chapter. Photo by Ed Munger



Saratoga Battle Chapter, Empire State Society

Sons of the American Revolution

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www.saratogabattle-sar.org



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