



Patriot Grave Marked In North Country

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.

Guests performed a remarkable rendition of The National Anthem during a recognition ceremony held Sunday, June 25 for a Revolutionary War Patriot in the North Country.

About two dozen people gathered near the New York - Vermont border in Hampton, NY, east of Whitehall, at the historic William Miller Chapel to honor William Miller II, PVT., of Pittsfield, MA.

The Falls Church Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution invited descendants of Miller, and representatives of several patriotic organizations from several states to the event.

According to details provided by

(Continued on page 5)



Headstone restoration at the historic William Miller Cemetery honored Patriot William Miller who was recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution in Hampton, NY on June 25. Photo by Edward Munger Jr.

British a topic at Chapter Meet September 17th

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.

An educator, historian and expert on George Washington will be the guest speaker at the Saratoga Battle Chapter's fall meeting on Sunday, September 17 at The Factory Eatery & Spirits, 20 Prospect Street, Ballston Spa, NY

12020.

Details on food and cost will be provided via e-mail and on the website, in the near future.

Guest Speaker Jim Sefcik will present "Why the British lost and

(Continued on page 4)

INSIDE

⇒ **UPCOMING EVENTS**—pg. 2
⇒ **LOCAL CADETS RECOGNIZED**—pg. 3

⇒ **COMPATRIOT PENS NEW BOOK**— pg. 4
⇒ **PRESIDENT'S DISPATCH**—pg. 2

Upcoming Events

Included here are calendar events attended by recreated 2nd Continental Artillery regiment, chapter-attended events and calendar material from Saratoga National Historical Park.

July 22-23: Fort Ticonderoga reenacting event.

July 29: George Washington at the Schuyler House. 10 a.m. 4 p.m., Schuyler House. The commander-in-chief of the Continental Army reprises his 1783 stay at the Schuyler Estate. This program is made possible by support from the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield.

July 30: English Country Dance 1—3:30 p.m. No experience necessary and all ages are welcome. Traditional steps, traditional music (you might recognize a few of the tunes...) and some costumes add to the fun of dancing like our forefathers. Saratoga Arts, NYS, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield.

August 6: Turning Point Parade, Schuylerville.

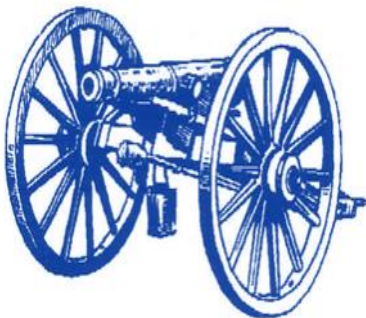
August 16: Bennington Battlefield Ceremony 6PM.

August 19: General Peter Gansevoort Grave Marking, 11 a.m., Albany Rural Cemetery.

September 2-3: Reenactment / demonstrations on Mount Independence, VT.

September 9-10: Reenactment / demonstrations at Herkimer House.

September 17— Sunday. Saratoga Battle Chapter, Empire State Society, SAR—Fall Bi-Annual Meeting. 4—7 p.m., The Factory Eatery & Spirits, 20 Prospect St., Ballston Spa, NY 12020.



President's Dispatch

Submitted by Edward Munger Jr.



Our deepest gratitude goes out to the Rhodes Memorial fund for its generous donation of \$4,000 to the Chapter.

According to information provided by compatriot Dennis F. Marr, the Lawrence I. & Blanche H.

Rhodes Memorial Fund Inc. is a Private Foundation with a mission to assist tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations in carrying out their programs.

The foundation does not solicit requests or proposals, but rather seeks out organizations best suited to the purposes of the foundation.

The grants and donations may be one time or recurring as determined by the foundation's Grants Committee and Board of Directors.

I am pleased to report that Saratoga County's efforts to honor Patriot Ancestors is progressing nicely thanks to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The foundation

approved an historic marker for the Ormsbee Cemetery, honoring Ambrose Cole & Isaac Ormsbee who served in Rhode Island as Privates. Also under consideration are applications for the Stillwater Union Cemetery and for numerous Patriots buried at Jeremiah Smith Cemetery.

I am ashamed to admit research in hopes of getting a sign for Patriots at the Oakwood Ceremony has stalled. I have not given up though.

Our upcoming meeting September 17th will take place following the DAR's 92nd Annual Wreath Presentation at the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Saratoga National Historical Park. We're hoping to have DAR members join us for the dinner/meeting afterwards.

I am expecting a wonderful award ceremony as we'll be recognizing many of our Color Guard and members of the recreated 2nd Continental Artillery

(Continued on page 6)

Cadets Recognized by SAR and Union Veterans

The Saratoga Battle Chapter joined in recognizing several cadets during ceremonies in the 2nd quarter of 2023.

Jeffrey Kinder, of Amsterdam High School's MCJROTC, was presented the Covell Scholarship Award during a June ceremony. The Saratoga Battle Chapter contributes to the \$200 award in participation with the Col. George L. Willard Camp #154, Albany, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The award is named after Mr. Carlton Ellsworth Covell, a Past President of Saratoga Battle Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and longtime member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and past Camp Commander at the Col. Willard Camp.

Cadet Snay Maung received the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze JROTC medal and certificate from Saratoga Battle Chapter Secretary Michael A. Hernandez during a June 9 awards ceremony at Albany High School.

Cadet Jacob Pass, Air Force ROTC, received the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze JROTC medal and certificate from Saratoga Battle Chapter President Edward Munger Jr. during an event April 25 at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Cadet LTC John Mazzariello received from Saratoga Battle Chapter



Cadet LTC John Mazzariello received the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze JROTC medal and certificate from Saratoga Battle Chapter President Edward Munger Jr. during an event May 31 at LaSalle Institute.



Jeffrey Kinder, of Amsterdam High School's MCJROTC, was presented the Covell Scholarship Award by Leo McGuire, Secretary of Willard Camp No. 154, SUV.

the Sons of the American Revolution President Edward Munger Jr. during
Bronze JROTC medal and certificate an event May 31 at LaSalle Institute.

Compatriot Publishes New Book

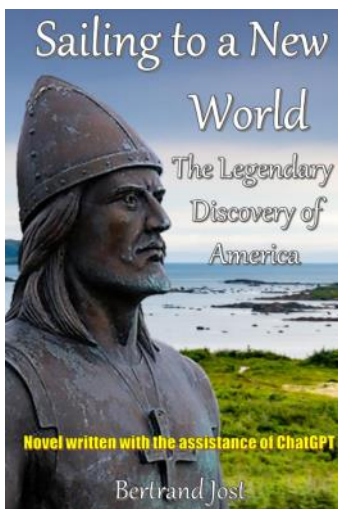
Submitted By Bertrand Jost

Dear friends! I am happy and excited to announce the release of my new book:

"Sailing West – The Legendary Discovery of America"

This book deals with a topic that has long been of great interest to me: the discovery of America by the Vikings at the turn of the first millennium. It is a novel divided into two parts. In the first part, the story follows and builds on the episodes of two Icelandic sagas (the Saga of Erik the Red and the Saga of the Greenlanders) that recount the arrival of the Norse in Greenland and from there various voyages to America.

The second part is based on my own extrapolation of other sources such as old legends dealing with the arrival of Europeans in America and archeological finds that provide a series of hints of what the Scandinavian exploration of America might or could have been after the first trips described in the Saga.



Besides the inherent interest that I had in the topic, the reason for me to engage in this project now, was because of the release of ChatGPT in November 2022. As it has been disclosed in the press (see article below), my firm Morgan Stanley has initiated a collaboration with OpenAI to evaluate the use of this tool for various business applications and I am fortunate enough to be

part of this exciting project. As a result, I was curious to see how useful ChatGPT could be in assisting an author in writing a novel. My answer and my analysis are given in the foreword of the book.

For those who will give me the great honor of reading my book, I hope that you'll find as much pleasure in reading it as I had writing it and for those who will go as far as writing a comment on Amazon, I will send a copy of anyone of my books listed on Amazon (4 books in English and 6 in French) and if you're local, I can also sign it for you.

Thank you for your support! Bertrand

Note: I never use the term "Viking" in the book since this term appeared in the Middle Ages to refer to pirates and raiders coming from the North and laying waste across the continent. But the Norsemen that settled in Greenland and from there explored America are far from this description. They were settlers, farmers, hunters and daring explorers that were just trying to make a living in an arid land.

September meeting ...

(Continued from page 1)

the Americans were Victorious."

Sefcik was born in Troy and earned degrees in American history from Saint Joseph's University, Temple University, and the University of Notre Dame. He taught at Gannon College, the University of New Orleans, and Our Lady of Holy Cross College. His museum career was spent at the New York State Museum, the Chrysler Museum, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the Louisiana State Museum from whence he retired after 17 years as Director in 2004. Since then, Sefcik has taught courses on the American Revolution in ALL programs at Union College, Empire State College, and Cape Cod Community College.

His publications numbering more than 20 cover topics

on museum management and fundraising as well as George Washington and winters,

Washington's relationship with his mother, his experiences during the Revolutionary War with Christmas, New York City and the Revolutionary

War, the role of the French as a turning point of the American Revolution, among others. Sefcik is currently researching the legend of Jane McCrea.



Miller honored ...

(Continued from page 1)

the family, William Miller was born on December 16, 1757 in Springfield, MA.

He enlisted as a private in the Pittsfield Militia of Massachusetts in 1777, at the age of 20, and served as a private in five different units with Captains Roots and Strong. They marched to Bennington, Vt.

Miller married Paulina Phelps in 1781 and fathered 16 children then moved to Hampton, NY in 1786.

He died there in 1812 after serving in the NY Militia as Captain.

Among those in attendance were Miller's descendants, representing the Falls Church, Virginia DAR Chapter, Regent Sue Martin and Chaplain Susan Jackson.

Descendant Carl DeSpiegelaere of the Fairfax Resolves (Virginia) Chapter, SAR; and Cameron Stuart of the Falls Church Chapter, NSDAR were there.

Massachusetts Society, SAR President James Lee Holmes and Saratoga Battle Chapter, Empire State Society, SAR President Edward Munger Jr. were also in

attendance. The Rev. Dave Velasquez, Site Director, William Miller Farm, led the Benediction and Eric Schreiber performed

Taps. Linda Reid led the musical tribute. The group gathered afterwards for refreshments and fellowship.



Descendants of William Miller paused for a photo in front of the historic William Miller Chapel in Hampton, NY on June 25. Miller, a Revolutionary War soldier, was a member of the NY Militia following his service in five different units during the American Revolution. Photo provided by Miller descendant Susan Jackson.



Wreaths dedicated to Patriot William Miller were on display in the historic William Miller Chapel in Hampton, NY on June 25 as descendants celebrated a new DAR marker for Miller's grave site. Photo provided by Miller descendant Susan Jackson.



Happy Independence Day

Many thanks to Compatriot Michael P. Golden for sharing this photograph of these Patriotic Children at the July 4th Parade in Argyle.

President's dispatch ...

(Continued from page 2)

Regiment for their efforts to promote the 250th Anniversary of America's Independence.

We'll also be announcing plans to gather candidates for our upcoming elections. All officer positions at the Saratoga Battle Chapter are up for election during our February 2024 Annual Meeting.

Please consider volunteering your time, there are many ways you can help this organization work to promote the ideals of our forefathers.

Positions include President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Historian, Registrar, Genealogist and Chaplain. As always, we're likely hoping all of those in their current positions are willing to stay on. All are doing a great job. The only vacant position is the 2nd Vice President post. I expect we'll discuss the positions at the September meeting and set up a nominating committee.

Be well all, and thank you for all you do to keep our Patriot ancestor's recognized and remembered.

- Edward Munger Jr.

Saratoga Battle Chapter, Empire State Society

Sons of the American Revolution

President, Edward W. Munger Jr., president@saratogabattle-sar.org

1st Vice President, Michael R. Skelly, vp1@saratogabattle-sar.org

Secretary, Michael A. Hernandez, secretary@saratogabattle-sar.org

Treasurer, David L. Flint, treasurer@saratogabattle-sar.org

Registrar, Thomas L. Dunne, registrar@saratogabattle-sar.org

Genealogist, Duane P. Booth, genealogist@saratogabattle-sar.org

Historian, Karl L. Danneil, historian@saratogabattle-sar.org

Chaplain, Charles W. Wheeler, Jr., chaplain@saratogabattle-sar.org

Editor: Edward Munger, Jr.

© 2023 Saratoga Battle Chapter, Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

Questions or comments? Phone (518) 888-0698 | or email: president@saratogabattle-sar.org | Letters and mail to: Edward Munger, Jr., President, Saratoga Battle Chapter, SAR, 319 Kings Road, Schenectady, NY, 12304

Visit Our Website: www.saratogabattle-sar.org

