



BATTLE LINES

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NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER EMPIRE STATE SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

IN OUR MEMORY

We are saddened to report the deaths of two long-time members of our chapter. Compatriot Terry A. Morgan of North River passed away on September 21 at the age of 68. Terry was a veteran of the Korean War and a Mason, and he wrote in his journal for 47 years.

Kent H. Brown of Slingerlands died September 7 at the age of 85. Kent had a distinguished military and legal career, serving in the Army Air Force and OSS during WW II. He went on to hold numerous offices with the state of New York, including Chairman of the Off-Track Pari-Mutual Betting Commission and Counsel to the Public Service Commission.

GET WELL WISH

Our best wishes go out to Past President Clyde Childs who is recovering from surgery. You can drop Clyde a note at: 156 Mohawk Dr., Schenectady, NY 12303-5733.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A hearty welcome to new compatriot Joshua David Hall of Lec, MA. Joshua is age 20 and joins by right of descent from Ebenezer Rewey of the 1st Regiment, Berkshire Co., MA.

A welcome, too, to James Barton, who is transferring from the 1st NY Continental chapter after moving to the area in connection with his work.

A WORD FROM THE TREASURER

Vice President/Treasurer Duane P. Booth reminds all members to keep him informed of any changes in your address, telephone number or e-mail. Duane can be reached at: PO Box 836, New Lebanon, NY 12125-0836; 413-442-7266; e-mail: boots42@worldnet.att.net.

CHAPTER COLOR GUARD

We have a solid start on a fine color guard in the persons of Peter and Jonathan Goebel. We need several additional volunteers to fill out this unit and make our appearances at SAR events even more colorful and

memorable. If interested, please contact Pres. Rick Saunders at: 492-1412, or e-mail at: RS4Liberty@aol.com.

ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

Another spectacular memorial service was held at the Saratoga Battlefield on September 23. This annual event, conducted in conjunction with the Saratoga Chapter of the DAR, was especially significant this year in light of the attack on our nation just two weeks earlier. Also, this year was the 70th anniversary of the placing of the beautiful DAR monument at Stop 2 on the battlefield tour road.

We were honored to have several distinguished guests with us this year. The family of our late compatriot and PG, Bruce Baird Butler, were with us again this year: his widow Ann, his mother Dorothy, his twin daughters and his twin grandchildren.

Also with us and bringing greetings from the National Society of the DAR was Charlotte Porter Bayliss Edson, Librarian General of the NSDAR. Representing the NYS Organization, NSDAR, were Mrs. Nancy Rodenmacher, NYS Director of District IV and Peggy Jo Power Gifford, NYS Historian for the DAR and Past President of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter.

Compatriot Myron E. (Mike) Lyman, Sr., President of the Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, SAR represented the VA Society. Mike's wife Mary, First Vice Regent of the Washington Lewis Chapter, DAR, represented the VA Organization of the DAR.

Officiating for our two DAR and SAR chapters were Susan Szewczyk, Regent of the Saratoga Chapter DAR and Compatriot Richard C. Saunders, Jr. representing Saratoga Battle. Also on hand was Mrs. Shirley Schadow, immediate Past President of the Saratoga Chapter, DAR.

With us again this year was Peter Dubacher of the Berkshire Bird Paradise who brought an American bald eagle for all to see.

Six members of the Patriots American Heritage Program of the Fellowship of Christian Schools, under the direction of Compatriot Greg Bozarth of IL, joined us as well. Several members of this youth group, who

participated at the weekend encampment at the battlefield during this weekend, were not allowed to travel because of parental concerns following the terrorist attacks. However, the young folks lent much color and luster to the event, capped off by their reciting in unison the names and states of the 56 Signers.

Following the ceremony, a chapter meeting was held in the Visitors' Center. We then proceeded up Route 32 to the Quaker Springs United Methodist Church, where the church ladies put on a wonderful buffet for us.

CENOTAPH STONES DEDICATED AT NATIONAL VETERANS' CEMETERY

As you may know, veterans' grave markers may be placed for our ancestors at the Saratoga National Veterans' Cemetery in those cases where the final resting place of a veteran is not known. A very moving ceremony was held for two Revolutionary soldiers: Jesse Barker, Sr., who died at Valley Forge, and Ezra Covell, ancestor of Past President and Past Chaplain Carlton Covell.

On hand for this ceremony, held on September 29, were a color guard; a rifle squad; a bagpiper; colonial musicians; military chaplain; and a Revolutionary War artillery group who fired a volley of 13 shots from a cannon.

If you have an ancestor from any war whose burial place is unknown, you may have a marker placed at the Saratoga Veterans' Cemetery at no cost.

In addition, you may order a marker from the VA if your ancestor is in an unmarked grave, or if his stone is severely damaged.

CHAPTER MEMORIAL STONE

The stone commemorating the patriots of Saratoga has been installed on the Memorial Walk at the Saratoga National Veterans' Cemetery. Following the above ceremony on September 29, the chapter members attending stopped by to view the stone. It is a very handsome granite stone with a sloping face upon which is fixed a 12" x 24" bronze plaque. A formal unveiling will take place next year as part of our observances of the 225th anniversary of the battles of Saratoga. The stone was paid for out of the \$4,000 grant received last year from the Rhodes Memorial Fund.

ANCESTOR CORNER

This feature will return next issue. Please send your submissions to Editor Marr.

DAR/SAR CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Our friends from the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter of the DAR have invited us to join them for a Christmas social at their new chapter house, the Van Schaick Mansion in Cohoes. Cost is \$5 per person to defray the cost of refreshments. RSVP by December 1 to: Kristen Moore at 456-3738 or e-mail at: kln@nycap.rr.com.

The mansion is located on Van Schaick Island and is accessible from I-787, Bridge Ave. exit. Take Bridge Ave. to the end where a park with a large flag pole will be in front of you. Go left on Park Ave. and take the first right....the house is down the hill on your left.

KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST

President Saunders has distributed contest materials to over 50 school principals inviting juniors and seniors to participate.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richard C. Saunders, Jr.

Compatriots:

I hope that you will be able to join us for the inaugural DAR/SAR function at the Van Schaick Mansion. This will also be the new home for the ESSAR Library, which Dennis Marr is working on transferring from Schenectady.

We have an exciting schedule of events shaping up for next year when we will celebrate the 225th anniversary of the battles of Saratoga. The following events are presently scheduled: please make note of the dates and attend if at all possible. Any changes will be announced as they occur.

30 May 2002: Cemetery Memorial Stone Unveiling and Dedication, Saratoga National Veterans' Cemetery

4 July 2002: Re-Dedication of SAR Monument, Saratoga National Historical Park; held in conjunction with a new citizen swearing-in ceremony

August 2002: Turning Point Parade, Schuylerville, NY

22 Sep 2002: SAR/DAR Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Saratoga National Historical Park

19 Oct 2002: Re-Dedication of the Saratoga Battle Monument, Victory Mills, NY

Your participation in our programs and meetings will help insure their success. Please let me have your ideas for any other programs or activities that you think would be appropriate for us. This is YOUR society and your participation can help make it better.