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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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FALL 2008

Proposed Constitution/Bylaws Changes
To be voted on February 2009

Bylaws Committee: P.P. Dennis F. Marr, Chair
P.P. Duane Booth, Member

Prepared by Duane Booth

Underlined Text Is New

Constitution:

ARTICLE IV CHAPTER OFFICERS

The officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Genealogist, an Historian and a Chaplain. These officers shall be elected by the membership as described in the By-Laws. From time to time, certain offices may be occupied by one individual on a combined basis, for example, Vice President/Treasurer or Registrar/Genealogist.

(Proposed) ARTICLE IV CHAPTER OFFICERS

The officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Genealogist, an Historian and a Chaplain. These officers shall be elected by the membership as described in the By-Laws. From time to time, certain offices may be occupied by one individual on a combined basis, for example, Vice President/Treasurer or Registrar/Genealogist and from time to time additional officers may be elected such as additional Vice Presidents or a Board of Managers as interest arises. However, in no instance may the same individual occupy the office of President and Treasurer. The President may at request of any officer appoint a consenting fellow member to act as an assistant to that officer. Assistant officers must be informed of the rights and duties of the office that they are appointed to. Chapter policy for reimbursement for expenditures made on behalf of the chapter require prior approval by resolution or by majority vote of elected officers, exemption of NYS Sales Tax where possible and presentation of a receipt to the treasurer.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of three meetings of the membership annually, one of which shall be the Annual

Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall be held in February on a date as close as is practicable to the birthday of President General George Washington on February 22.

(Proposed) ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of one meeting of the membership annually, which shall be the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall be held in February on a date as close as is practicable to the birthday of President General George Washington on February 22.

Bylaws:

VICE PRESIDENTS

The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties and shall preside in the absence of the President. If at any time the President is unable to discharge his duties, through absence, illness, incapacity, or any other reason, the Vice President shall act in the capacity of President until the President resumes his duties, or until the office of President is filled by way of election.

(Proposed) VICE PRESIDENT(S)

If at any time the President is unable to discharge his duties, through absence, illness, incapacity, or any other reason, the highest ranking Vice President available shall act in the capacity of President until the President resumes his duties, or until the office of President is filled by way of election.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Robert F. Brownell - DELMAR, NY
George F. Malinoski - WATERVLIET, NY
William M. Schaefer, Jr. - ALBANY, NY

IN OUR MEMORY

We were saddened to learn of the death of compatriot Robert H. Empsall of Malone, NY. Robert was 99 years of age and was a WWII veteran of the Army Air Force. Robert was a long-time boating enthusiast, having owned several cabin cruisers and sailboats. He was also an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Our condolences to the family, particularly to his son William, a member of our chapter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richard H. Fullam

If anyone had asked me when I joined SAR if I ever thought I'd be President, I probably would have said no. But 11 years later here I am, proud to be at the helm of the largest chapter in the Empire State Society. I feel the need to look back and thank those compatriots most responsible for getting me here.

First, to Dennis Marr, who had had dealings with my mother Dainne, then Registrar of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, DAR; Dennis would always ask "when are you going to get that son of yours into SAR?" Second, to Rick Saunders, who as a member of the chapter Nominating Committee called me one evening to ask if I'd be interested in the Treasurer position. I accepted, and would serve 4 years in that office. Third, to Duane Booth. As outgoing Treasurer, Duane showed me the ropes until I found my own style of handling the job. Duane has always been an invaluable source of information and advice. And, not least, to George Ballard. George made the most of his term, which has been shortened by his ongoing health concerns. My goal is to be a worthy successor, and I have my work cut out for me!

I represented the chapter at 2 events in October. First, on October 17, I presented a wreath at the Fort Hardy surrender ceremony in Schuylerville. Mike Companion and Charlie King, both in period dress, were there, as were Charles Walter and George Ballard. The following day, the Van Schaick Mansion was formally placed on the NYS Revolutionary War Heritage Trail; Saratoga Battle Chapter was asked by the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, DAR, to attend the dedication of the new signage. Compatriots Dennis Marr, representing the Rhodes Memorial Fund, and Pat Festa were also in attendance. I was pleasantly surprised to discover later that part of my welcoming address was deemed stirring enough to be aired on Capital News 9 that evening.

I would like to recognize the assistance that everyone has given me thus far, and to thank you in advance for that which I know I will receive in the future. I will do my best to honor the office of President in the coming years.

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY A

ROUSING SUCCESS

September 21 saw another fine annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Saratoga Battlefield. This colorful event featured the placement of memorial wreaths by 7 different SAR, DAR and CAR chapters. The 25th Continental Regiment of Massachusetts was on hand to add luster to the event. A productive chapter meeting was then held at the park Visitors' Center, followed by fellowship and dinner at Manna's Restaurant and Banquet House in Ballston Spa.

"BATTLE LINES" TO GO ELECTRONIC!

To save on postage but even more importantly to save on many hours of volunteer labor, this will be the last issue of *Battle Lines* to see general distribution via U.S. mail. With the exception of those who do not have Internet access, we will no longer be mailing the newsletter. It will be posted promptly on the chapter web site www.saratogabattle-sar.org upon issuance. You can sign up for an "RSS Feed" as explained in a previous mailing, and you will then be promptly notified by email when new content is added to the web site. You will be able either to read the newsletter online or to download it and print it out.

In order for this transition to work smoothly, we need to ask the following:

1. For those with Internet access, please be sure that we have your current email address; notify Duane Booth at: Boots42@fairpoint.net. Please keep Duane informed of any subsequent changes to your email address.
2. For those without Internet access, please call or write Duane so that he can make the proper mailing coding in the chapter database, to ensure that you get a copy mailed to you:

Duane Booth

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RECOMMENDED READING

"Google Your Family Tree" by Daniel M. Lynch is receiving rave reviews since its publication a couple of months ago. Your editor has a copy on order.

This new book helps you to understand and use dozens of specialized commands to dramatically improve your search skills. Many of these commands seem custom built to help with our pursuit of our family heritage. The great news is that most are easy to master and perfectly suited for finding people, places, and events. A special command even lets you narrow results by date range to filter results more quickly.

Only a professional genealogist and technology expert could have accomplished what author Dan Lyncy did with this book. He dissects more than one hundred powerful commands and features of Google, but maintains a focus on how they can be used specifically to conduct family history research. Special tips for finding people, places, and even filters for searching through different time periods. This book has it all.

\$34.95 from the publisher; secure site:

http://www.googleyourfamilytree.com/order_book.php